



Inside

**"EAT YOUR HEART
OUT, BRUNO!"**

April 1976

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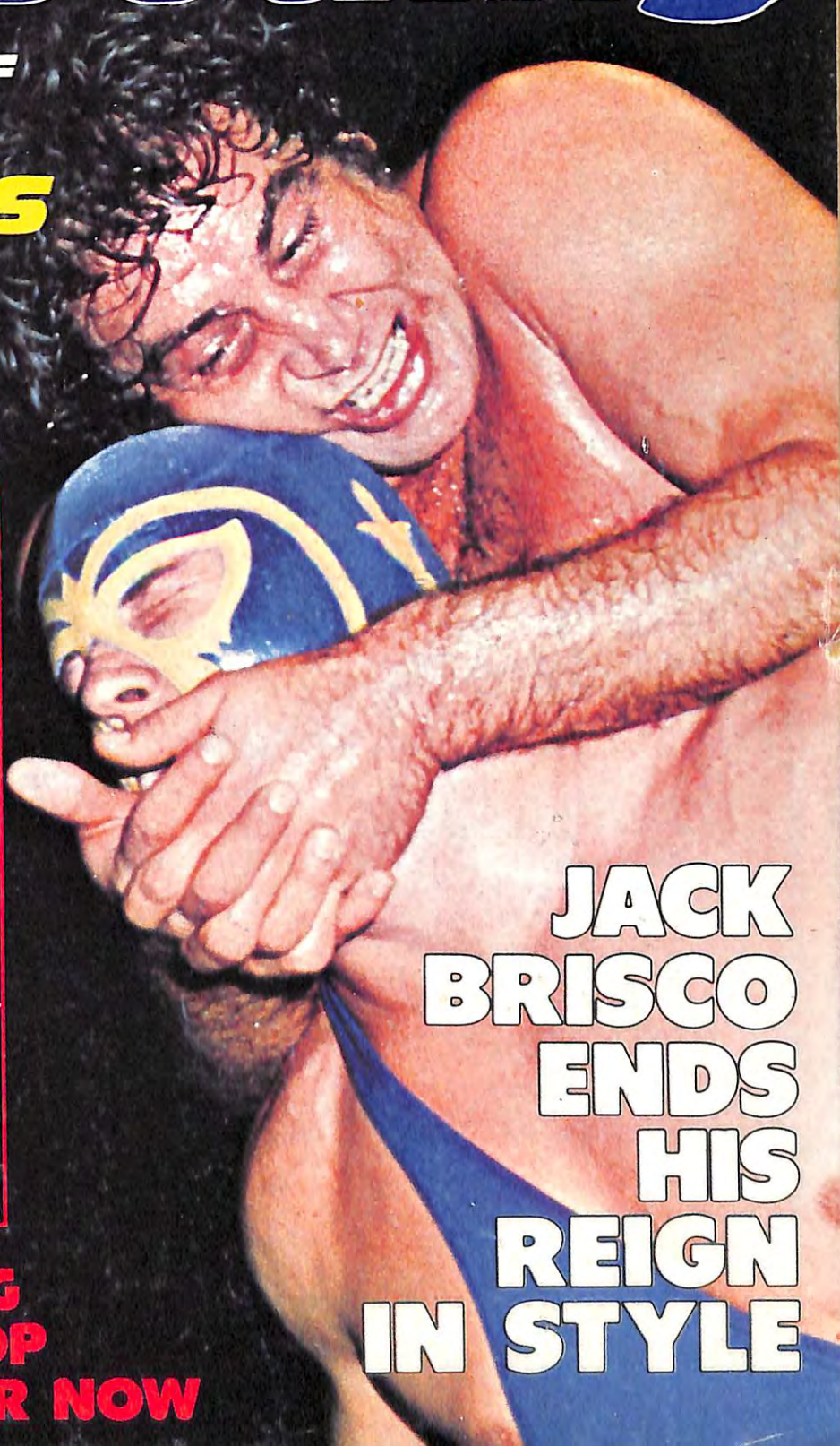
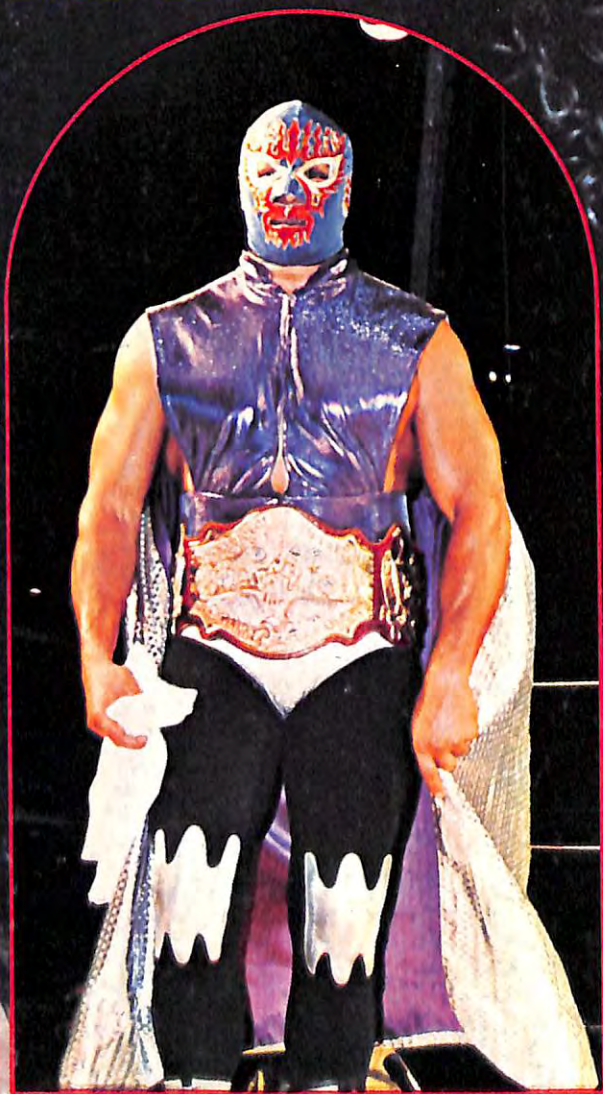


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WRESTLING

Wrestling

**THE TWO FACES OF
MIL
MASCARAS**



**JACK
BRISCO
ENDS
HIS
REIGN
IN
STYLE**

**NOTHING
CAN STOP
RIC FLAIR NOW**



POWERFUL MUSCLES FAST !!!



FASTEST MUSCLE BUILDING SYSTEM KNOWN TO MAN!

Muscle Builders can add 10" of steel-like muscles to your chest, 6" to your arms, and can melt 12" from your waist.

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In just weeks, you'll astonish your friends as your muscles grow and develop. Men will respect you and girls will admire your new masculine build. In just a few minutes a day, you can build a powerful, muscular body — so impressive that you will command respect and attention from everyone you come in contact with. Regardless of your present build, we can and will build you a powerful body — a body **RIPPLING WITH MUSCLES**.

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How would you like a trim abdomen hard enough to take any punch with no pain? You can have a muscular, impressive abdomen that protects against injury.

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Your course is great! In just 4 weeks I've gained 4½ inches on my chest and 2 inches on my arms.

J. Stroy, Ohio

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BECAUSE IT'S FAST, IT'S EASY
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OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION

CHAMPION: BRUNO SAMMARTINO

- 1—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
- 2—IVAN KOLOFF
- 3—ERNE LADD
- 4—IVAN PUTSKI
- 5—BOBO BRAZIL
- 6—BUGSY MCGRAW
- 7—SPIROS ARION
- 8—LOUIE CYR
- 9—DOMINIC DENUCCI
- 10—KEVIN SULLIVAN

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

CHAMPION: NICK BOCKWINKLE

- 1—VERNE GAGNE
- 2—OX BAKER
- 3—BARON VON RASCHKE
- 4—BOBBY DUNCUM
- 5—PAMPERO FIRPO
- 6—JOE LEDUC
- 7—LARRY HENNIG
- 8—GREG GAGNE
- 9—JIM BRUNZELL
- 10—KIM DUK

MOST POPULAR

- 1—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 2—IVAN PUTSKI
- 3—MIL MASCARAS
- 4—DUSTY RHODES
- 5—MR. WRESTLING II
- 6—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW
- 7—ANDRE THE GIANT
- 8—BOBO BRAZIL
- 9—MIGHTY IGOR
- 10—TIM WOODS

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

CHAMPION: TERRY FUNK

- 1—JACK BRISCO
- 2—PAUL JONES
- 3—SHOHEI BABA
- 4—DORY FUNK JR.
- 5—MARK LEWIN
- 6—THE SHEIK
- 7—KING CURTIS
- 8—MR. WRESTLING II
- 9—JERRY LAWLER
- 10—PETER MAIVIA

TAG TEAMS

- 1—LOUIS CERDAN & TONY PARISI
- 2—THE ANDERSON BROTHERS
- 3—BRUISER & CRUSHER
- 4—MIKE & EDDIE GRAHAM
- 5—THE VALIANT BROTHERS
- 6—PAT PATTERSON & PEDRO MORALES
- 7—THE MONGOLS
- 8—GOLIATH & BLACK GORDMAN
- 9—THE INFERNOS
- 10—THE INTERNS

WOMEN

CHAMPION: FABULOUS MOOLAH

- 1—VICKI WILLIAMS
- 2—JOYCE GRABLE
- 3—DONNA CHRISTENELLO
- 4—SUE GREEN
- 5—SHEILA SHEPPARD
- 6—SUSAN SEXTON
- 7—LEILANA KAI
- 8—KITTY ADAMS
- 9—DOTTY DOWNS
- 10—BELLE STARR



BILLY GRAHAM



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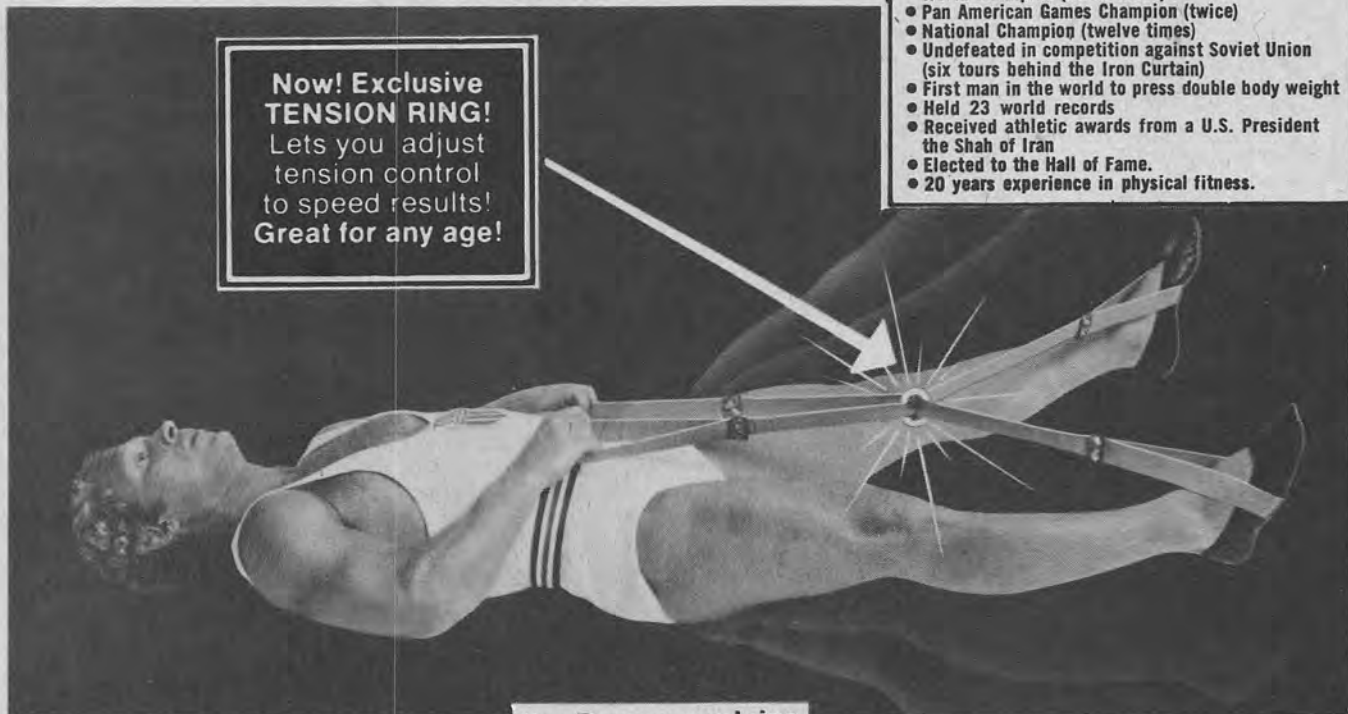
Turn Belly Fat into a Rock-Hard Lean Stomach

...in 7 short minutes a day with the "miracle" of **SYNOMETRICS**...the fantastic new discovery for **speed shaping** away ugly, embarrassing fat and flab...to reveal a brand new rock-hard, lean, trim, handsome body!



Introducing IKE BERGER—
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 • World Champion (three times)
 • Pan American Games Champion (twice)
 • National Champion (twelve times)
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Now! Exclusive TENSION RING!
Lets you adjust tension control to speed results!
Great for any age!



Ike Berger explains What is Synometrics?

You already know about the Isotonic and Isometric principle of body dynamics. Millions of people use one or the other in their daily exercises. I used BOTH methods in my daily Olympic training for years in different separate exercises. One day I accidentally discovered that if I used BOTH methods together in one single exercise, I automatically speeded up the results tremendously and I reduced my daily exercise hour down to only 7 short minutes.

The Science of SYNOMETRICS

I later learned the scientific reason for this amazing result. It's called **SYNERGISM**—meaning that when you combine two methods the result is greater than the both of them separately. I now called my new discovery **SYNOMETRICS** and developed a special exercise unit I call the **SPEED SHAPER**. And that's just what it is...a speed method to give you results in minutes, NOT hours! Now...build yourself a "fantastic looking body" with the incredible **SYNOMETRICS**—the invention that works on the exciting new scientific concept of **ISOTONIC + ISOMETRIC**.

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An ingeniously designed amazingly compact slimming and shaping discovery that has no ropes or pulleys.

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"I'm over 50 and I thought my fat and flab was with me for life...**SYNOMETRICS** "burned" it off in only 7 days. In fact results came so fast I had to cut my daily 7 minute workout to 5 minutes to slow down the slimming process. It's the most amazing method I've ever tried...and I've tried just about every gadget and gimmick I've seen in magazines and TV."

HY HARRIS, New York, N.Y.

INSIDE WRESTLING PINUP #36



TIM WOODS

ISOKINETICS Will Build Your Muscles Faster...or you get your money right back!



HERE'S RESULTS FAST — SURE — PROOF

A group of researchers stated that all published research matching isokinetics with weight lifting and isometrics showed that isokinetics is greatly superior for muscle building.

● "After four weeks of using the exerciser, my strength has doubled... thanks to you." —J Castillo, AK.

● "I'm beginning to look like I did when I got out of the Marine Corps." —Don C., PA.

● "In just 6 weeks, I put 2" on my arms, 3" on my chest, 2" on my thighs, and gained 22 lbs." —N.D.

● "In complete honesty, I think it is a great exercise program... the best one on the market!!!!" —Dave Fuss, IL.

● "You just aren't another rip-off company. You back what you say." —T Roeklein, WI.

● "I've averaged from 2-3" on my legs, arms, and chest—I'm glad that I did invest the money." —Richard Oxer, MT.

● "Enclosed is my money order (for a new Powerex). I know how good it is. I had one and I lost it. I am in several sports and cannot win without Powerex. It is the greatest!" —G Scott, Canada.

● "Arms increased 2 1/2", chest 3", decreased waist 2", and gained 20 lbs.—look and feel a lot better!" —Joseph Moreno, CA.

● "I used to be a singles man—this season I was a home run hitter, and I credit Powerex with this." —T J, AL.

● "The results are just FANTASTIC!" —Richard Lynn, MN.

ILLUSTRATED WALL CHART COURSES

POWEREX is safe, and light—under two pounds. POWEREX is compact, quick and easy to use, anytime, anywhere. At no extra cost, you also get a big 20 x 28-inch wall chart with illustrations and instructions. Several courses are described... for increased strength, bigger muscles, or turning fat into muscle. One course takes only 15 minutes a week.

Scientific Test PROVES Isokinetics

- 166% Better Than Weights
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- ### For Putting Muscle on YOU!

Isokinetics is now proved superior to weight training for building your strength, body and explosive power... faster, more effectively than any other method.

A leading medical journal published the scientific experiments of recognized researchers. Average peak strength improvement after only 8 weeks for each type of exercise was:

Isokinetics..... 47.2%
Weight Training... 28.6%
Isometrics..... 12.1%

During each Isokinetic exercise, you continually change the "weight" to the amount that your muscles need for fastest maximum development... without stopping. Until recently the only Isokinetic exercisers available were complicated machines costing from \$120 to over \$4000. But NOW, A NEW invention, amazing in its beautiful simplicity, puts Isokinetic muscle building within your reach for only a few dollars.

POWEREX — ISOKINETICS

The invention is POWEREX—an Isokinetic exerciser designed to give you the ultimate benefits of muscle strength, and explosive power faster than ever. And, as you know, with this comes the added benefits of confidence, and the outgoing personality that enables you to get along well with others of both sexes.

POWEREX is going to do all this for you thru the following ISOKINETIC PRINCIPLES:

- (1) **POWEREX** builds your muscles through their full range of movement. It works every small muscle fiber to its utmost. Not the grunt-and-groan partial static results of an Isometric gadget, but the total dynamic power of Isokinetics:
- (2) **POWEREX** has the exclusive **CONTROL LEVERS**. You instantly and smoothly change the amount of "weight" working for you, to the maximum your muscles can handle... from zero to hundreds of pounds, quickly building your body into a classic, powerful machine!

LOW COST — ORDER NOW

The best part is POWEREX costs you only \$13.95. For about 1/10th the cost of the next isokinetic exerciser on the market, the benefits of isokinetic muscle building are yours!

So don't wait another moment... fill out the coupon, write your check or money order, and get it in the mail now. The sooner you do, the sooner you receive your POWEREX and start the isokinetic way to a muscular body and dynamic power!

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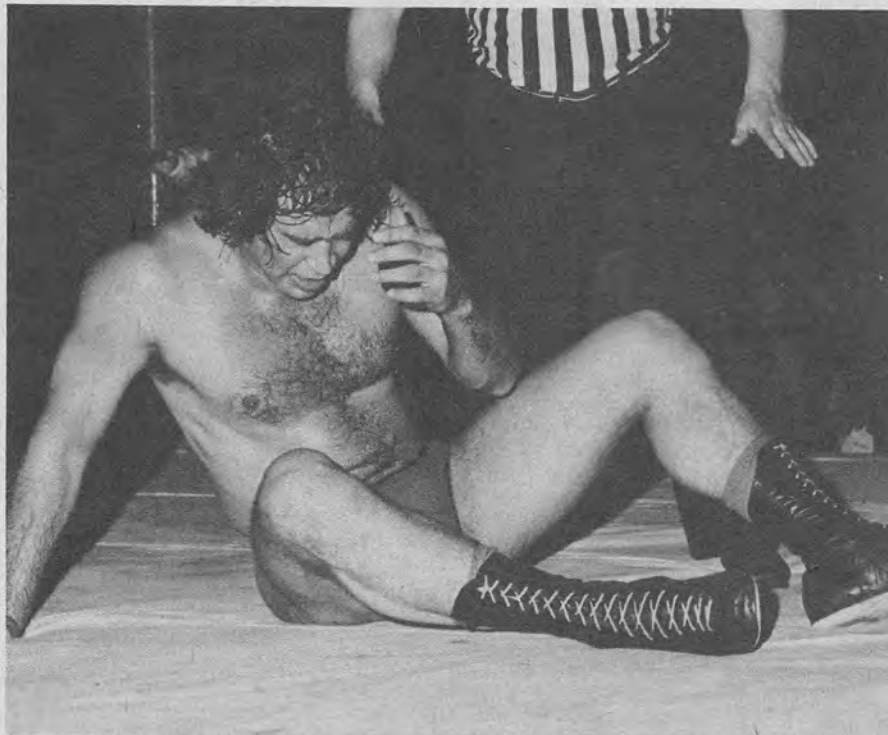
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NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS



FLORIDA NEWS By T.G. Nathan

A MIAMI BEACH crowd was stunned by the recent NWA title change, when Jack Brisco lost his championship to top contender Terry Funk. Jack's loss to Terry was totally unexpected, especially since Brisco was supposed to wrestle Dory Funk Jr. that night.

Bad airline connections prevented Dory from appearing for the match, so his brother offered to substitute. Brisco agreed to the change, and the NWA authorized the new match.

The battle began with Brisco in control. A series of snap mares kept the challenger from victory for the first half of the match. As time went on, Jack became more confident, weakening Terry with bodyslams, flying headscissors and elbow smashes. With one last elbow smash, Terry hit the canvas.

*Above: Stunned, Jack Brisco can hardly believe his reign as NWA king has come to an end.
Below: Bruno Sammartino made a bloody mess of Billy Graham!*



Sensing he was about to win, Brisco went in for the kill—he started employing his famous figure-four leglock. Just as Jack was about to finish Funk in the

leglock, Terry grabbed the champion's right shoulder. Then Terry caught Jack in a cradle hold. Three seconds later, it was all over, and the NWA championship belt changed hands.

But the most dramatic moment came after the match. After the referee handed Terry the belt, Jack walked over to the new champion to shake hands. Funk refused the handshake! The Miami Beach crowd was stunned.

When asked why he didn't accept Jack's handshake, Funk explained: "Jack has said bad things about my family in the past. I'm still angry at him. All of a sudden he wants to shake hands and forget it? Hell no! The Brisco-Funk feud is just starting as far as I am concerned!"

MASSACHUSETTS REPORTS By G. Richard Paris

Boston wrestling fans had quite a bit to be upset about as WWWF champion Bruno Sammartino barely managed to overcome opponent Superstar Billy Graham. It was considered by many to be one of Sammartino's toughest matches.

For the first five minutes of their match, Graham and Bruno exchanged various tests of strength, with neither man able to control the battle for more than a few seconds at a time. Everytime Superstar Graham was leading, Sammartino would land a brutal smash to the midsection. When Bruno gained control, Graham would employ a swift, gripping hold on the champion to regain the lead.

Ten minutes into the match, Bruno started landing devastating punches to Graham's head, opening several large gashes. Sammartino followed these up with brutal and savage kicks, opening the cuts wider.

(Continued on page 60)

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Some do even better immediately ... and, with a little experience, cash earnings of \$50.00...\$100.00 and more in an hour are possible for YOU!

Without a minute of previous selling experience, men and women all over America are discovering a new way to make almost unbelievable amounts of extra cash, thanks to National Gem Company. Robert Shipley of Indiana took \$150.00 in orders in 30 minutes, \$100.00 profit. In one hour Mrs. Mary A. Mennis of South Dakota had \$121.50 in orders for \$81.00 profit. Mr. Willie Stevenson of Missouri took orders for 7 rings his first day, without a display! How much money can YOU make, right from the start?

EASY! JUST SHOW SPECTACULAR SELL-ON-SIGHT NATIONAL JEWELRY TO FRIENDS AND OTHERS IN SPARE TIME...GET 200% PROFIT INSTANTLY ON EVERY AMAZINGLY EASY ORDER THEY GIVE YOU!

National Gem Company Jewelry is so beautifully fashioned and so reasonably priced that it sells to men and women on impulse at first sight! All you have to do is show everyone the breathtakingly natural full-color pictures in the National Jewelry Showcase Catalog (yours FREE) or actual jewelry samples and people want to order from you instantly. On every almost effortless order you take at our low suggested retail prices, you make 200% or more profit. No real selling at all ... our jewelry sells itself ... literally!

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Your Catalog offers over 200 men's and women's rings with 14K solid gold, solid sterling silver and 10K gold filled mountings -- no electroplates. Also 21- and 25-jewel watches for men and women, earrings, pendants, bracelets, pins, cufflinks, tie-tacs. Many have genuine stones -- jade, onyx, opal, tiger eye, topaz, garnet -- even genuine diamonds. Over 350 tested, proven sellers to help you make more money than you ever dreamed possible.

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Only a skilled jeweler's eye can detect that Endura Dia-Jewels aren't genuine diamonds. They're nearly as hard -- will even scratch glass! Their 58 facets sparkle with a dazzling brilliance. Lifetime Guaranteed! If an Endura Dia-Jewel ever cracks, chips, breaks or discolors, we'll replace it! These sensational diamond look-alikes sell for about 1/100 of a diamond's price and are available in fast-selling men's and women's rings, earrings and pendants.

Orders Shipped Within 24 Hours or Less ... We'll Even Drop-Ship to Your Customers!

With our automated order-processing system, we can ship to you from our computer-controlled over-\$1-million jewelry inventory within 24 hours of receiving your order -- often on the same day! If you wish, we'll ship orders directly to your customers for you -- FREE.

Every Jewel and Mounting Is Protected by Our LIFETIME GUARANTEE!

Every National Jewelry Creation is of such superior quality that we dare to supply a printed, signed Lifetime Guarantee Certificate with each one! If anything goes wrong with any part of any jewelry creation -- for whatever reason, even if stones are missing -- we'll replace the jewelry for only a small service charge to help pay part of handling and shipping expense. This Guarantee has no time limit! Imagine how it wins immediate and complete customer confidence for you!

Start Without Investment If You Wish

We have a plan which lets you make your full 200% profit without investing a single cent of your own money. We'll send you full details of the no-money plan when you mail the coupon. But even if you do decide to invest a little money in a few jewelry samples, we won't let you risk a cent of your investment.

GUARANTEED! Triple Your Money Within 30 Days ... Or Get Your Money Back!

Everything you need to make an exceptional income, spare of full time, is yours FREE and without obligation when you mail the coupon. We'll rush you a complete money-making Display Outfit -- the colorful Jewelry Showcase Catalog, Sales Manual with 8 easy ways to make money, guaranteed no-risk extra-profit offers, and all order-taking supplies. Your profit-taking Outfit comes to you by return mail. No salesman will call on you.

FREE! MONEY-MAKING DISPLAY OUTFIT

There's no way you can lose on the National Gem Company money-making plan! If your first order, regardless of size, doesn't sell out completely within 30 days and pay you \$3.00 for every \$1.00 you invest, we'll buy back any unsold jewelry at exactly what you paid for it. You take no risk at all to find out how much money you can make!

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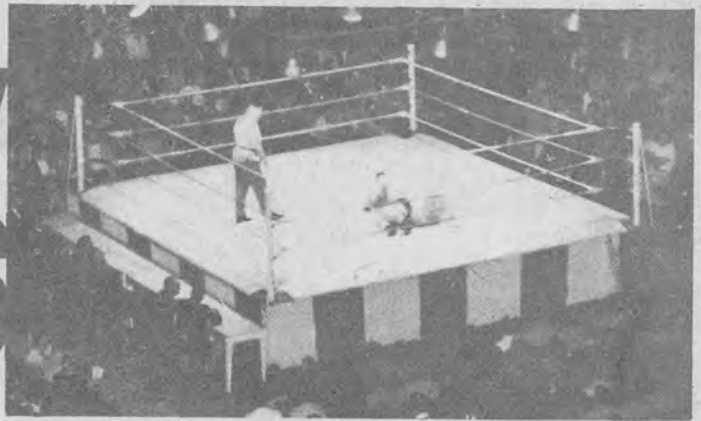
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681 Hamilton St. DEPT. B-72
Somerset, N.J. 08873 Phone: (201) 247-2244

SINCERELY YOURS



I am writing this for the greatest men in the world—Captain Lou Albano, and Blackjacks Lanza and Mulligan. They'll get the title back!

GLEN JONES
Kearny, New Jersey

DESPICABLE GRAHAM

I think Billy "Superstar" Graham is the most despicable wrestler in the world. He's the biggest showoff I've ever seen. Not only that, but he cheats like crazy.

I was at Madison Square Garden when he faced Dominic DeNucci. He attacked Dominic while Dom's back was turned. Some victory! Well, I think he did so because he knew if Dom had a chance, he would have slaughtered Graham!

Billy calls himself "Superstar." Know what I call him: "Stupidstar!" When I think of the article "My Blood Is On Your Hands" (INSIDE WRESTLING/October 1975), all I can say is if his blood was on my hands, I'd spit on it! I can't begin to count the many things I hate about the man.

Graham, I hate you!

PHYLLIS BOBB
Brooklyn, New York

DESERVING KING

I think your magazines are the greatest.

There is just one thing I didn't like in THE WRESTLER/December 1975. The letter Helen Lashley wrote, saying King Curtis doesn't deserve a title shot, is unbelievable. He certainly does deserve it and he always will!

Next to Sheik, Curtis is the best wrestler in the whole sport. They are so much in demand. Fans don't realize how much they contribute to the sport.

BRIAN LACKIE
Scarborough, Ontario

DESERVING

There must be some sort of conspiracy in the WWWF against scientific wrestlers. Since Sammartino
(Continued on page 48)

ONE MAN'S OPINION

On December 20, 1975, I saw the match in which Terry Funk won the NWA belt from Jack Brisco.

I want you to know our great state of Texas has much to be proud of, with the *exception* of Funk. We Texans pride ourselves on our honesty, loyalty, and bravery. Terry Funk doesn't know the meaning of these three qualities.

Mil Mascaras once said, "A wrestling league is only as good as its champion." If this is true and Funk continues to be champion, the NWA is as good as finished.

Jack Brisco is still the King!

KEN JOHNSON
San Antonio, Texas

BLACKJACKS BOOSTER

The Blackjacks are the true WWWF tag team champions. I am sick and tired of the Blackjacks being deprived of their greatness.

I saw how Louis Cerdan and Tony Parisi cheated them out of the championship. People say The Blackjacks cheat, but Cerdan and Parisi out-cheated them in both matches!

Above: Does this wild brawler, bloody King Curtis, deserve more respect? Below: Popular Billy "Superstar" Graham is hated by one very angry fan!



Parisi and Cerdan claim they're scientific. Take this quiz and tell me the difference. Have you seen Cerdan and Parisi cheat on a pin in a match? Punch? Now ask the same question of The Blackjacks. Tell me if there is any difference.

Practice makes perfect when you tackle the wildest sexual techniques with your own delicious, life-like sexual partners!

Two fantastic, inflatable, love dolls!

SEX MATES

Judy & Susan, two tantalizing love-dolls can create a new, unforgettable sexual orgy ...every night of the week!

Imagine coming home one evening and two of the most gorgeous female creatures you have ever laid eyes on are relaxing in your living room—totally naked—without a stitch of clothes—smiling—patiently waiting for you. "Hi," they coo, "you big hunk of man, come in and join the party!"

Well you had better be prepared because Judy and Susan can make your most exotic fantasies come true! These two action-packed dolls have learned to be totally submissive—completely responsive to your every command!

So, you're invited to jump right in and have yourself an orgy! There is no limit to these girls' capacity! They'll take everything you've got! They're both designed to serve you—the master—and no one else—except, of course, with your permission.

Judy and Susan are human-like in almost every detail. Their flesh-like vinyl skin is smooth and lovely to the touch. Both SEX MATES are perfect in every way . . . each one a full life-size 5'4" with large 37" voluptuous breasts, a

handsome, tapered 24" waist and well-rounded 36" hips. Soft and flexible, your SEX MATES can be positioned to your liking. With no objections!

And here's a special treat! Your SEX MATES LOVE PAK comes complete with the sexiest, most tantalizing adornments; a Peek-a-Boo negligee, a revealing daring bikini . . . etc., they're all included when you order the SEX MATES LOVE PAK.

Judy and Susan are yours forever! Play them as singles or couple them for a dual engagement! They're both guaranteed to please you or your money is refunded in full. Use the coupon to order your very own Judy, Susan or Both!

100% MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

Your SEX MATES must please you time after time . . . if, however, you are not absolutely delighted with your SEX MATES; simply return them and receive back every penny. No questions asked! Order now!

FREE 10 DAY LOVE-EM HOME TRIAL

**LONDON SALES, Dept. J-1276
P.O. Box 7643, VAN NUYS, CALIF. 91409**

Please RUSH my inflatable SEX MATE(s) to me for a 10 day free home trial. I must be 100% satisfied or my money will be refunded promptly.

☐ Send Judy (White girl) ☐ Send Susan (Black girl)

- ☐ I enclose \$19.95 cash, check or money order + .95 postage for my SEX MATE checked above
- ☐ I enclose \$35.90 cash, check or money order + .95 postage for both SEX MATES.
- ☐ Please add the SEX MATES LOVE PAK including the negligee, bikini, etc. at only \$5.00 for each SEX MATE.
- ☐ Please RUSH — I enclose \$2.00 for special rush delivery.

Name _____

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Photos shown are the actual live models from which the SEX MATES were fashioned.



Judy



Susan



"Hi, big fella, come and enjoy me!" "Hey, man, feel me, hold me close!"

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\$1995
for Judy or
Susan!**

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Joining Pen Pals will help you make new, exciting friends all over the world. And all your Pen Pals will be great wrestling fans just like you. We'll print your picture right here in the magazine, and also a little about who you are so that your Pen Pals will know something about you even before they send you their letters. You'll get lots of mail from swell people just like you! Fill out the coupon below right now and mail it to us. We'll take it from there. Wow! Have we got a lot of surprises!

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Hobbies, other interests _____

Favorite Wrestler _____

I like ☐ Good Guys ☐ Bad Guys

What Kind of Person Would You Like

As Your Pen Pal _____

Will You Write To Pen Pals In

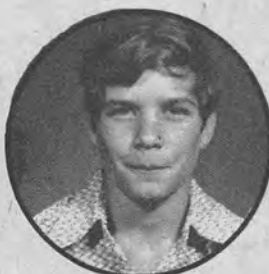
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Picture.**

(Sign Your Name)

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PEN



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158 N.W. 10th Drive
Mulberry, FL 33860
Likes hunting.
Dusty Rhodes his
favorite. Likes
good and bad guys.
Anyone for PP's.



JOE LOWMAN (13)
107 N.W. 10th Drive
Mulberry, FL 33860
Likes hockey. Dusty
Rhodes his favorite.
Likes good and bad
guys. Anyone for PP's.



CHARLOTTE WALLER (19)
1622 Capital Cir. S.E.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Enjoys swimming. Tim
Woods her favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for pen pals.



ANTHONY HIBBLER (14)
259 Center Street
Lehigh, PA 18235
Enjoys football.
Tony Garea his
favorite. Likes
good guys. Anyone
for pen pals.



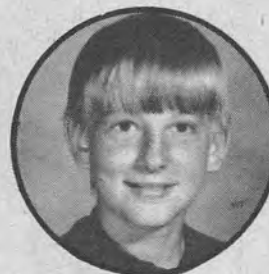
CHERYL HALLMON (27)
1007 Collin Drive
Euless, Texas 76039
Likes sports, Don
Muraco her favorite.
Likes good and bad
guys. Anyone for PP's.



WILLIAM DEITSCH (23)
1600 Metropolitan Ave.
Bronx, New York 10462
Likes cars. Bruno
Sammartino his favorite.
Likes bad guys. Anyone
for pen pals.



MICHAEL GOLDSTONE (14)
41 W. 96 Street
New York, NY 10025
Enjoys sports. Bruno
Sammartino his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys.
Girls for pen pals.



DONALD JOHNSTON (13)
1404 Second Street
Alexander City, AL 35010
Enjoys hunting. Jack
Brisco his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for pen pals.



SANDRA PATTERSON (13)
692 Boulevard S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30312
Likes swimming. Jim
Garvin her favorite.
Likes good and bad
guys. Anyone for PP's.

PALS



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JEFFREY SUPER



MARTY SHIRLEY (12)
806 Overhill Drive
Brandon, FL 33511
Likes basketball.
Dusty Rhodes his
favorite. Likes
good guys. Boys
for pen pals.



FRED KRAMER (14)
227 Arthur Street
Johnstown, PA 15902
Enjoys hunting. Ivan
Putski his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for pen pals.



DENISE DEVLIN (19)
70 Parkview Road
Waltham, MA 02154
Likes crocheting.
Tony Garea her
favorite. Likes
good guys. Anyone
for pen pals.



IRVING NOBLE (14)
Box 384-Little Current
Ontario, CANADA
Enjoys basketball.
Ed Carpentier his
favorite. Likes
good and bad guys.
Anyone for pen pals.



CHARLES BAUER (21)
38-25 Parsons Blvd.
Flushing, NY 11354
Likes sports. Victor
Rivera his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Girls for pen pals.



EDNA BUCKHANNON (13)
Rt. 1 Box 94-T
Tallassee, AL 36078
Likes basketball.
Ron Garvin her
favorite. Likes
bad guys. Anyone
for pen pals.



ERIC TANENBLATT (9)
4 Algonquin Lane
Commack, NY 11725
Collects coins.
Chief Strongbow his
favorite. Likes good
guys. Boys for PP's.



SCOTT JORDAN (14)
Rt. 6 Box 298
Eight Mile, AL 36613
Likes chess. Paul
Jones his favorite.
Likes good and bad
guys. Girls for PP's.



FAYE CLARK (18)
710 Third Avenue
Hartsville, SC 29550
Enjoys sewing. Wahoo
McDaniel her favorite.
Likes good and bad
guys. Anyone for PP's.



MIKE NISKACH (21)
717 Saline Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
Likes skiing. Bruno
Sammartino his
favorite. Likes good
guys. Anyone for PP's.



JEFFREY SWEIGART (18)
243 Washington Street
Reading, PA 19601
Likes swimming. Bruno
Sammartino his favorite.
Likes good guys. Girls
for pen pals.



CATHY MOORE (14)
Route 3 Box 152
Sandersville, GA 31082
Enjoys basketball. Mr.
Wrestling II her
favorite. Likes good
guys. Anyone for PP's.



JOEY MAKUCH (12)
243 Hemlock Street
Timmins, Ont. Canada
Likes sports. Ed
Carpentier his
favorite. Likes
good and bad guys.
Girls for pen pals.



DAVID O'LEARY (9)
8 Sunnyside Drive
Carteret, NJ 07008
Likes baseball.
Ivan Putski his
favorite. Likes
good guys. Boys
for pen pals.



JULIE KELLER (13)
RD 1
Wrightsville, PA 1736
Collects magazines.
Larry Zbyszko her
favorite. Likes good
guys. Anyone for PP's.

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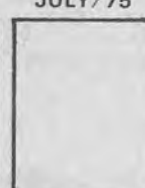
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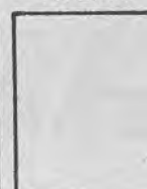
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Crazed Buggy McGraw kicks Dom DeNucci as the popular mat star tries to get back in the ring. Why did the fans cheer Buggy on for doing this to an athlete whom they admire and respect?

THERE IS NO reason on earth why the fans should love Buggy McGraw. The man tortures his opponents, insults everyone in sight, and is managed by the notorious Lou Albano. Any one of these things should make him despised. All together they should make him the most hated guy in town.

That is why it sounds strange to hear fans scream for Buggy to win, even against their favorites! Cries of "Sick Power!" echo throughout the arena as Buggy battles in his odd and dangerously brutal way. Trying to discover Buggy's attraction to his many loyal followers is a difficult task; few fans are sure why they cheer this strangely unique

grappler. It takes long and arduous interviewing to discover the common reasons for Buggy's popularity.

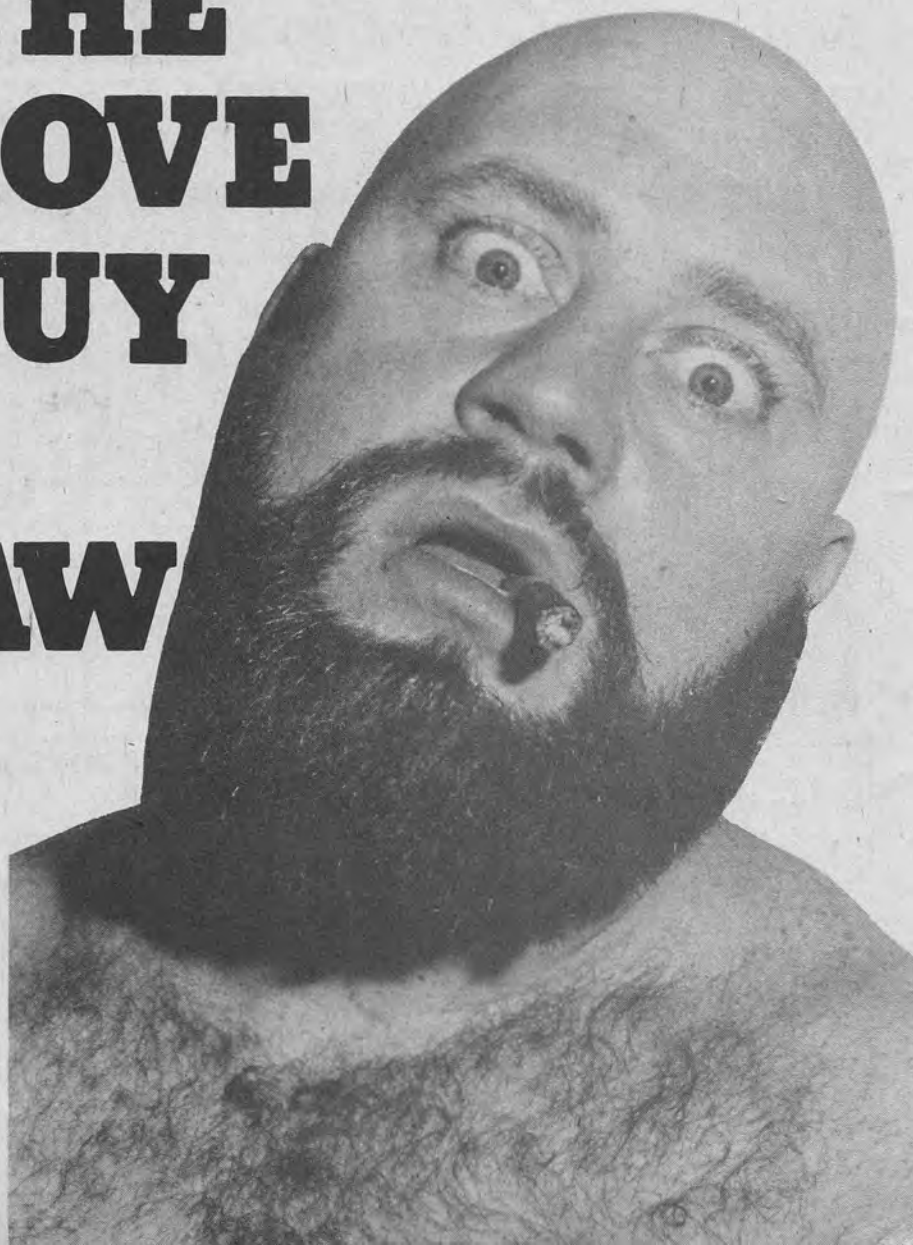
The most common reason behind this phenomenon, acknowledged by fans after long questioning, is Buggy has become the perfect hero for the 1970s!

"These are crazy times," explains Sol Walchinsky, of Brookline, Massachusetts, "and Buggy says it all. There's no sense in anything anymore. I don't know where I'm going next. Tomorrow terrifies me.

"Buggy has the perfect solution—craziness. What does it matter to a madman what happens next or who commands him to do something? McGraw does what he wants when he wants. He doesn't care about rules. Hell, he didn't make them up. What does he care about what
(Continued on page 64)

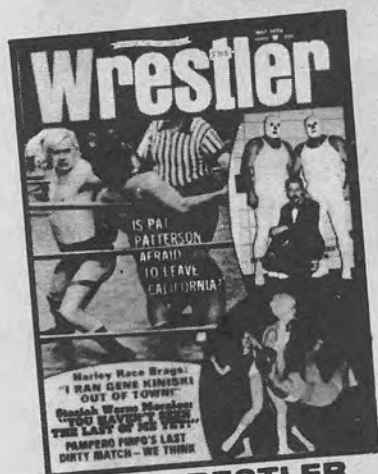
WHY THE FANS LOVE BAD GUY BUGSY McGRAW

He does everything to make the fans hate him—yet they cheer him for his every outlandish move. What is the strange secret behind Buggy McGraw's astonishing popularity?



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Ever since Terry Funk won the NWA championship, fans have been flooding our office with letters. It's our responsibility to make their wishes known to Terry and the wrestling establishment

AN OPEN LETTER TO TERRY FUNK

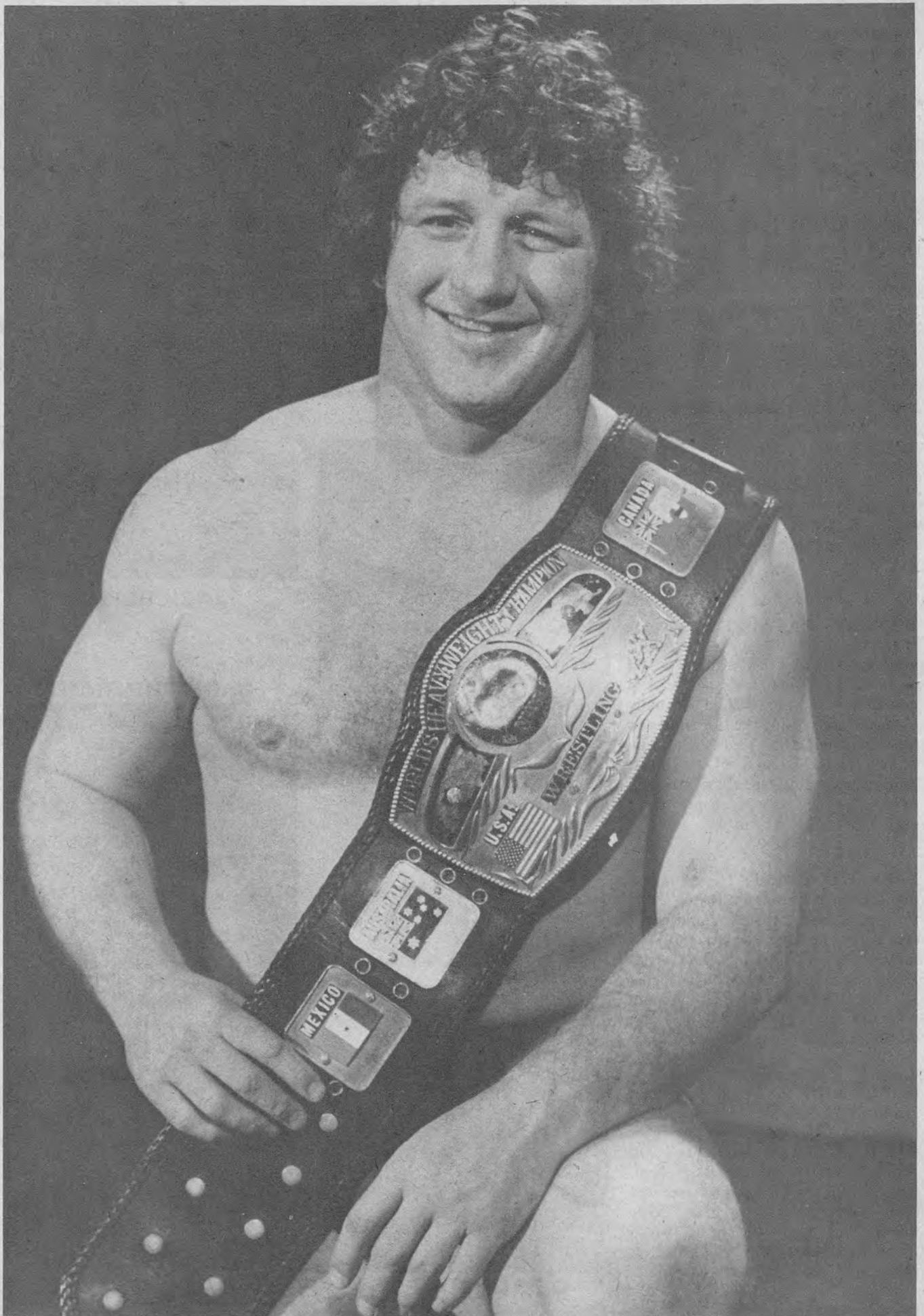
Terry Funk
NWA Heavyweight Champion
Amarillo, Texas

Dear Terry,

Congratulations! Winning the NWA title from Jack Brisco is a great accomplishment. The championship is a great honor. We're sure your reign will bring even greater fame to the most remarkable family in wrestling history.

We're sure you have heard advice from all corners. Your brother Dory Jr., a great ex-champion, can best tell you how to overcome the special ordeals thrust upon a champion. We wouldn't presume, and we believe there is no need, to instruct you on how to be a credit to the sport. Your past is assurance enough for us of your dedication to wrestling.

We are printing this letter to tell you what the fans tell us. Since you became champion, thousands of letters have flooded our office. Ten names have appeared over and over again as opponents you must face. If you fail to meet any of these ten, your title will fall into disrespect among the fans, we realize this is the last thing you would wish to happen. The following list is intended to aid you and the image of the title you cherish. *Continued*



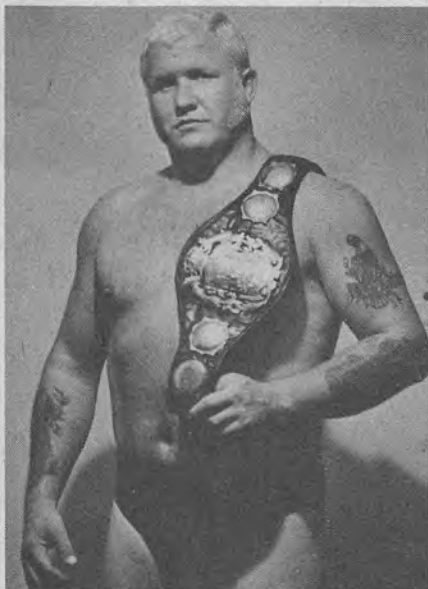
PAUL JONES: This is a man who defeated you for the United States championship title. Fans believe he will be the man you must beat to prove you are the best in the world. Jones' many challenges to you must be answered as fast as possible. Once you defeat Jones—if you defeat Jones—your record will be unassailable.

JACK BRISCO: The ex-champion is justifiably respected by the fans and your colleagues. It is important for you to prove your victory over him was more than a fluke, a once-in-a-lifetime achievement. It is of the utmost importance for a champion to be known by all as the best in his profession any night of the week. Only continued victories over Jack can earn you this reputation. No title can survive a controversy. You are the last person in the world who would want his championship dragged through the mud of unanswered questions. Fans believe Jack deserves the opportunity to regain his title; we're sure you agree with them.

HARLEY RACE: The former champion—the man who defeated your brother to win the title—is still considered by many to be the top contender for the belt. His many victories since losing the title to Brisco have heightened his reputation. You know Harley is one of the most dangerous men in wrestling; fans will expect the new NWA champion to earn a victory over him.

BABA THE GIANT: The Japanese mat star held onto Jack Brisco's title for a week; as a former champion, the fans believe he deserves a title shot. His fame has spread throughout the world. Defeating him will make you respected all over the globe. He is the main international grappler you must defeat—the sooner the better.

DUSTY RHODES: "The American Dream" is almost unequaled in popularity. His fans are the most enthusiastic in wrestling; Dusty's skill and personality have enchanted them. Until the fans in the south can see you have achieved superiority over Rhodes, they will never regard you as the true champion. A victory over Dusty will prove to these and many others who is the real champion. We know this is important to you.



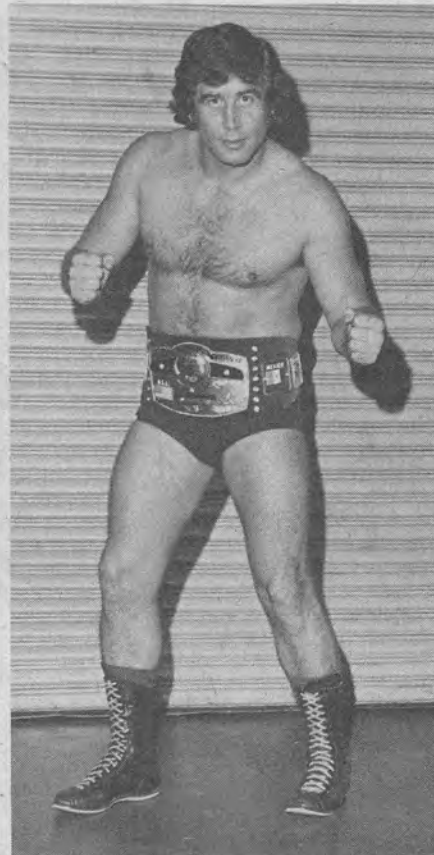
HARLEY RACE



DUSTY RHODES



PAUL JONES



JACK BRISCO



BABA THE GIANT



BOBO BRAZIL

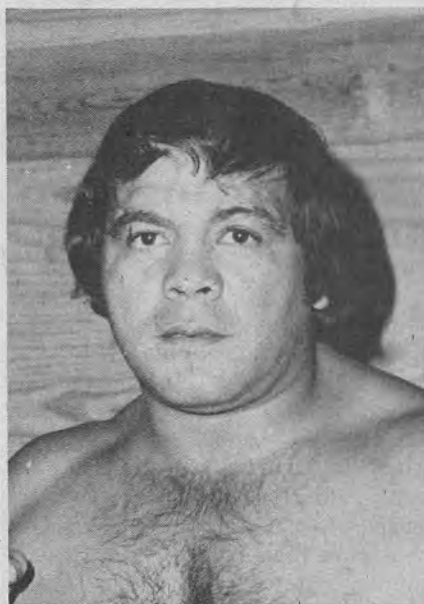
THE SHEIK



MR. WRESTLING II



JERRY LAWLER



JOSE LOTHARIO

MR. WRESTLING II: This masked wrestler is renowned throughout the south for his daring, courage, and wrestling skills. He has come back from the most devastating injuries to wreak revenge on those who injured him. His accomplishments, as well as his abilities are known to you. A man who had defeated so many great grapplers must be considered a contender. Your championship reign will not be complete without a victory over this man.

JOSE LOTHARIO: This popular mat star rivals your own fame in Texas. His many excellent matches have won him the respect of thousands. It will be a strange match for you because many of your admirers will find themselves unable to root for you wholeheartedly. Their allegiance to Jose will leave them oddly confused. However, respecting both of you, fans feel Jose deserves a title shot and your championship deserves the chance to turn back one of the most difficult challenges in wrestling.

BOBO BRAZIL: This remarkable veteran has won the admiration and devotion of fans all over the world, but has yet to win a major title. Bobo remains one of the top contenders for any championship. No champion can be considered a legitimate titleholder without a victory over this perennial challenger. A victory over Bobo, surviving his wiles and coco-butt, will be demanded by fans before they can consider you the true champion.

SHEIK: The most hated of mat men is also regarded as the most dangerous. He's an insult to the sport in the eyes of most fans, who look to the champion to rid him from the sport. With the belt, you have taken on the responsibility of defending the sport's honor. You are expected to conquer all those who run riot throughout the sport. A victory over Sheik will be a warning to all those who wish to brawl like savages and maim helpless opponents.

JERRY LAWLER: Calling himself "King of Wrestling," Lawler lessens your own achievement. Until he's defeated, his claim will cheapen your title. We, and most of the fans, know you won't tolerate this situation for long. As far as the fans are concerned, the sooner you meet Lawler, the better.

These are the men the fans want you to wrestle, Terry. As you can see, your work is cut out for you. Best of luck.
The Editors • INSIDE WRESTLING



PHOTOS BY BILL BEACH

Red Bastien wanted to make the fans of Amarillo grovel before him. He would do anything to accomplish his mission of vengeance!

THE TWO MEN tensely approaching each other were professionals, their first responsibility to wrestling. Their commitment to the sport they love is what prevented a bloody brawl from breaking out between Red Bastien and Larry Hennig.

The two bitter enemies were meeting in the gymnasium for the first time. Fate and circumstance had made them tag team partners. Though they despised each other, they shared a

common goal.

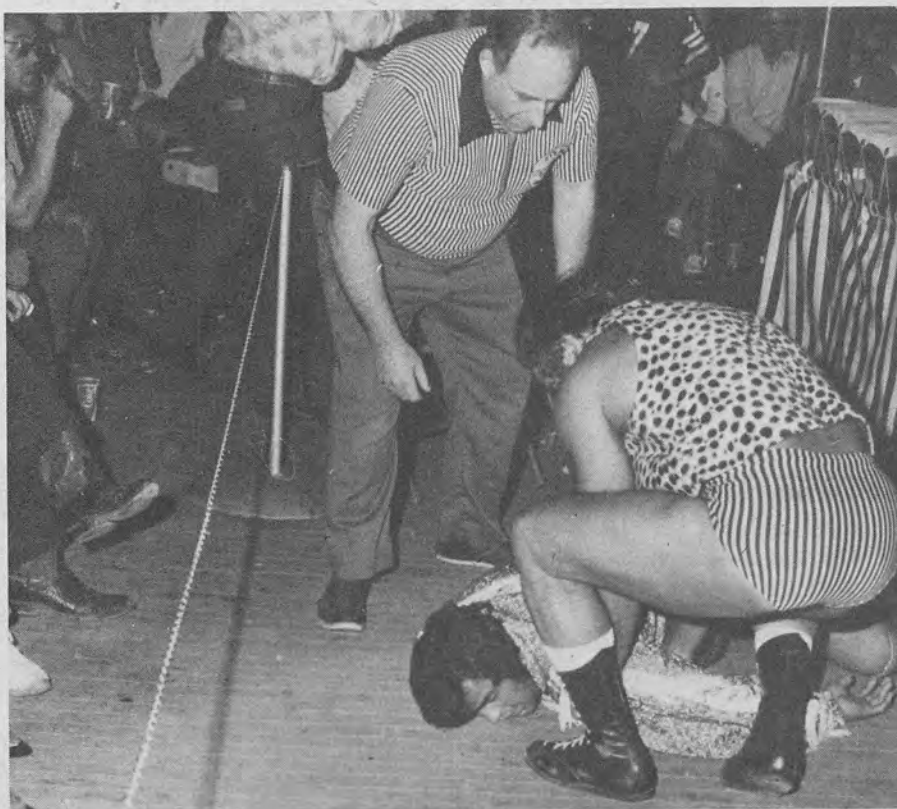
Red Bastien is a popular wrestler all over the world—except in Amarillo, Texas. His fate has been to wrestle against the popular mat stars in Amarillo. Red has just done his job, but by doing so he has received the hatred of these fans. After a while, he was more than ready to return their enmity.

"I have nothing against the wrestlers in Amarillo," Red declares, "but there's one or two things I want to

show the fans. To disgrace, humiliate, and defeat their favorites is what I plan to do. I want their cheers to choke in their throats. I want to turn their boos to cries. I told the promoter exactly what I wanted and I didn't care how I did it. I guess he took me at my word," Red adds with a twisted grin.

Three hours after Bastien requested a tag team partner to wreak havoc with him in Amarillo, the promoter told him Larry Hennig was available. Knowing of the hatred between

THE TAG TEAM FORMED TO TEACH A TOWN A LESSON



Before the match is scheduled to begin, Larry Hennig smashes Ricky Romero over the head with his loaded elbow-pad (above) and then hurls the stunned wrestler over the ropes. The fall sends Ricky to unconsciousness (left).

Bastien and Hennig, the promoter obviously had hopes of discouraging Red's bloody intentions. However, he underestimated how badly Red wanted to punish the fans in Amarillo.

"If Hennig will have me," Bastien replied, "I'll be his tag team partner."

The promoter was stunned, almost too astonished to contact Hennig. Still, the man figured Hennig would never allow the team to be formed. Every decent thing Bastien stands for, Hennig despises.

Instead of the howl of outrage the promoter expected from Larry, there was a howl of laughter. When Hennig finally calmed down enough to speak, the promoter was more stunned than ever.

"If Bastien wants it," he declared, "then I wouldn't miss it for the world."

(Continued on page 46)

HOTSEAT

BOBO BRAZIL: "I NEED THE FANS MORE THAN THEY NEED ME"

HIS HAS BEEN one of the most illustrious careers in professional wrestling. A big favorite with fans since he first stepped into the squared circle, he made headlines by upsetting wrestling's most savage men, notching up victory after victory against scientific opponents. His feud with The Sheik is one of the longest—if not the longest—in the history of the sport. He is big, skillful and a total gentleman. He is Bobo Brazil.

Q: Welcome to the "Hotseat," Bobo.

A: Thank you. I'm glad to be here so I can tell the fans what's on my mind.

Q: Are fans important to you?

A: Yes. I need the fans more than they need me. They made me what I am today. Without fans supporting me, I wouldn't have made it to the top.

Q: Bobo, do you remember your very first match?

A: Yes I do. It was in my hometown of Benton Harbor, Michigan. I wrestled a guy named Al Wishoshski. My knees were shaking because I was so nervous.

Q: What was the result of the match?

A: He beat me in about thirty seconds!

Q: Did you learn some sort of lesson?

A: Oh yes! I don't think Al would have beaten me so fast if I wasn't so afraid. I was crowd-shy. I was shaking even before I got into the ring. I was afraid of my opponent, afraid of the people, afraid of my

“

Fire is fire. Everyone knows it really burns. When Sheik threw fire at me, it felt like walking into a blowtorch.

”

own shadow!

Q: Do you still get nervous before a match?

A: Not any more. When I have real hard, tough matches comin' up, I just get away by myself and I think. Sometimes I lay down in bed and think about my matches. Then when I wake up I feel good. I know what I'm gonna do when I get in

that ring.

Q: One guy you've feuded with almost since the onset of your career is The Sheik. Can you really plan a way to work a defense against him?

A: You can't plan any defense for The Sheik. He's the kind of wrestler you have to fight fire with fire. When that bell rings you know what The Sheik has in mind, so you have to try and be one step ahead of him. When I wrestle someone like him I just sail out of my corner and tear into that man.

Q: The Sheik has thrown fire at you several times, Bobo. What does it feel like?

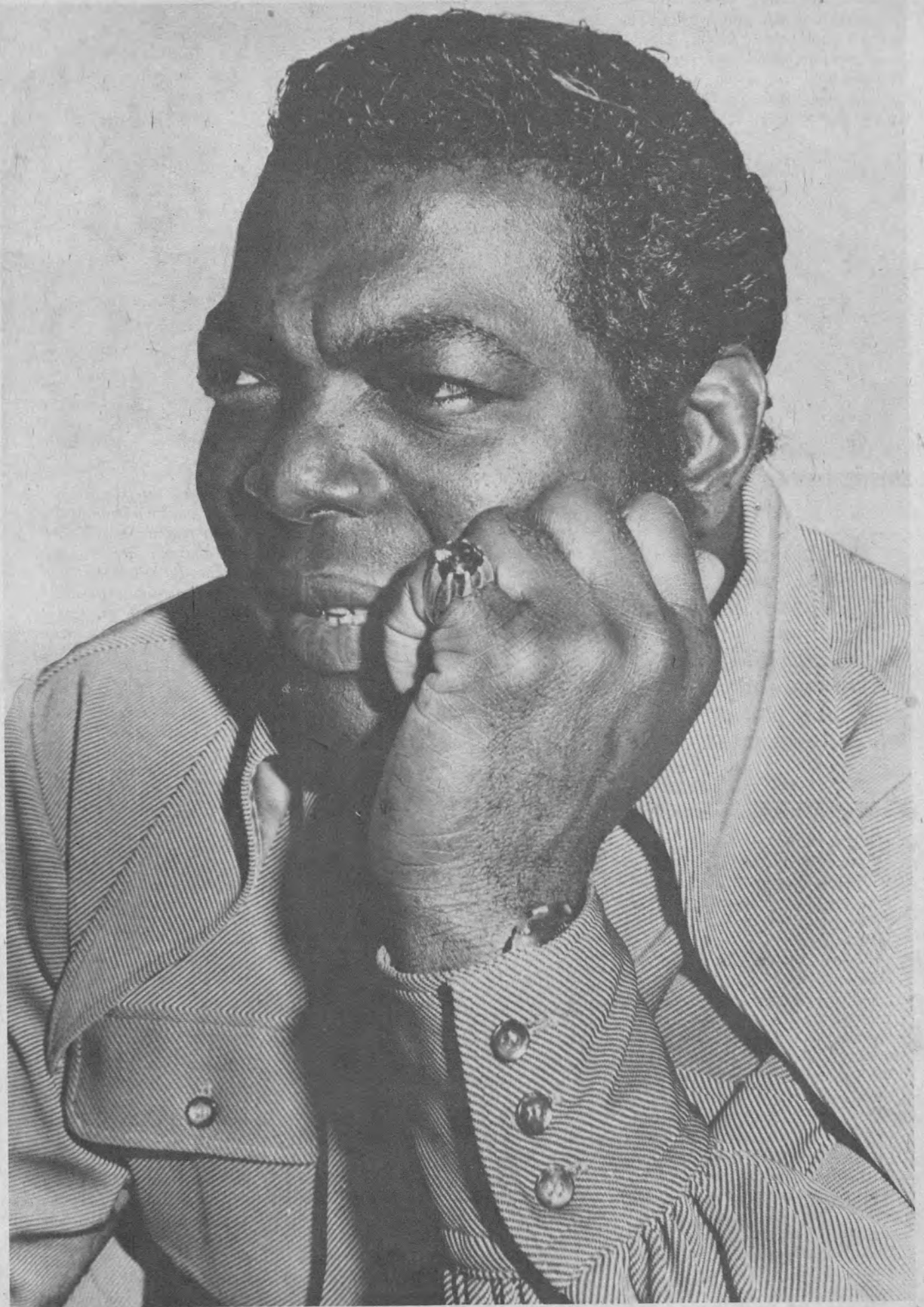
A: Fire is fire. And everyone knows fire really burns. He threw the fire at me many, many times. But only once did he really catch me.

Q: Could you describe the moment of impact?

A: It felt like walking into a blowtorch. My eyebrows and my eyelashes were all burnt off. I could have wrestled afterwards, I think. The tissue was tender and yet I still wanted to get back at him. But with my eyebrows and lashes burnt off I felt really embarrassed when my fans looked at me.

Q: What did you do?

A: I just went home and stayed there



until everything came back to normal. When you wrestle The Sheik you have to be very careful. If any young wrestler is reading this, heed my words. Don't ever turn your back on The Sheik if you're wrestling him. He's just like a fox.



“

When I get to be champ, I want to be proud. I want to beat my opponent fairly, in the middle of the ring. Every wrestler who puts on a pair of tights wants to be champion.

”

Q: Do you think the Sheik is “sick” for wrestling the way he does.

A: Not really. It's just *his* style. There are a lot of wrestlers with his style. Take Abdullah the Butcher for instance.

Q: Let's talk about titles now. You once won the NWA title and refused to take it on a technicality. Why?

A: I'm glad you brought that up. I beat Buddy Rogers—not fairly. We had collided and he got hit in the groin. That isn't my style. When I get to be champ I want to be proud. I want to beat my opponent fairly, in the middle of the ring. Rogers couldn't continue. He was finished. But it was the way he was finished. That's why I refused to take the match. I lost a lot of friends and fans that night. They said, “Bobo you're crazy. He would have taken it.” And he



Above left: Bobo is always in demand for television interviews.

Above: When George Cannon claims his belly could withstand the impact of Bobo Brazil's Coco Butt, the popular mat star was glad to accept the challenge. The look of pain on Cannon's face proves George's stomach wasn't up to the boast! Below: Bobo is less than a second away from finishing off Sheik. The two men have been in many brutal, bloody, and ugly battles during their long feud!



would have taken it and felt good. But I would have felt lousy the rest of my life.

Q: Do you still want a world title? After all you did wrestle Rogers, Bruno Sammartino, and other champions throughout the years.

A: I have held some belts. But I never had a chance to hold the world belt. Every wrestler who puts on a

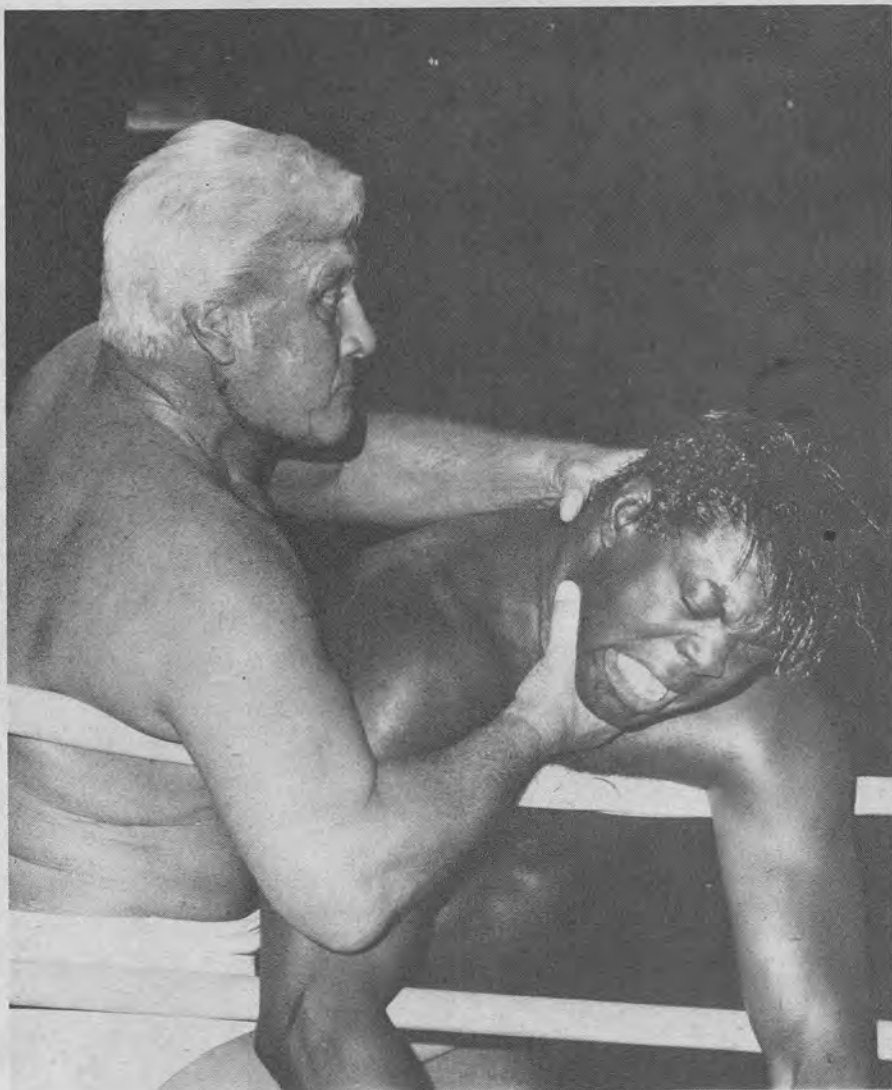
pair of tights wants to become champion.

Q: Would you answer this—do you want Bruno Sammartino's title?

A: If I'm put in the position to wrestle him I'd go out to beat him. But I'm not going to go out of my way for a title shot.

Q: Why not?

A: Bruno is one of my best friends.



Above: Bobo is almost choked lifeless by the notorious Freddie Blassie. During his career, Brazil has wrestled against the most ruthless men ever to don wrestling trunks—and has notched great victories against them all. Below: Bobo brings wild Thunderbolt Patterson to his knees with an excruciatingly painful clawhold.



- I would feel bad wrestling him.
- Q:** Are you saying personal feelings would take a front seat to a title shot?
- A:** That's the way I feel. I wouldn't feel right walking into the ring and seeing a friend in the opposite corner.
- Q:** Okay, let's move on. Probably one of your most effective maneuvers is the Coco Butt.
- A:** Oh yes!
- Q:** It's a really brutal move. If the commissions decide to ban it, would the career of Bobo Brazil be hurt?
- A:** The Coco Butt is something that has been with me quite some time. If they ban the move, it won't destroy me. It will take a little away from me.
- Q:** Could you explain why?
- A:** That is one move I have really

concentrated on throughout the years. A wrestler by the name of Himmy Mitchell, better known as "The Black Panther," taught it to me early in my career. He told me, "Kid, you stick with this move and you'll go a long way." And I did.

Q: But what if they ban it. What would you do?

A: I have many other holds I can rely on. But I sure would miss my Coco Butt.

Q: What other holds do you use most often?



“

Bruno is one of my best friends. I would feel bad wrestling him. I wouldn't feel right walking into the ring and seeing a friend in the opposite corner.

”

A: The Cobra Twist. It's a version of the Abdominal Stretch. To finish my opponent off, I Coco Butt him and then, when the moment is just right, the Cobra Twist comes into play.

Q: What are your future plans, Bobo?

A: To work harder to get wrestling cleaned up of men like Sheik, Abdullah the Butcher, and their kind. This way my wonderful fans can sit back and watch good, clean scientific wrestling, the way I like it.

Q: Thank you, Bobo.

A: The pleasure was all mine! □

JACK BRISCO ENDS HIS REIGN IN STYLE



PHOTOS BY BILL APTER

WHEN A CHAMPION loses his title, one usually finds the few matches before his defeat were tough and barely won. It's a steady deterioration eventually resulting in the loss of the belt.

Jack Brisco did not follow this pattern. In the matches just before his title loss to Terry Funk, Jack wrestled brilliantly. In fact, in the last match before his defeat, Jack wrestled as well as he ever did. His opponent was Spoiler, a vicious and ruthless foe. Spoiler is a member of Playboy Gary Hart's "army," an indication of how reprehensible this grappler can be in the attempt to

win a match.

There had been speculation before this bout about Jack's ability to continue as champion. He had the most grueling schedule of all titleholders. Many felt exhaustion was a more dangerous enemy than any foe he could meet in a match, yet Jack was confronting and turning back all challenges.

After his match against Spoiler, people were saying Brisco could go on being champion forever. He was so perfect a champion in this brawl Hart had to blatantly interfere to have Spoiler disqualified. Usually, Gary is a genius at interference; no

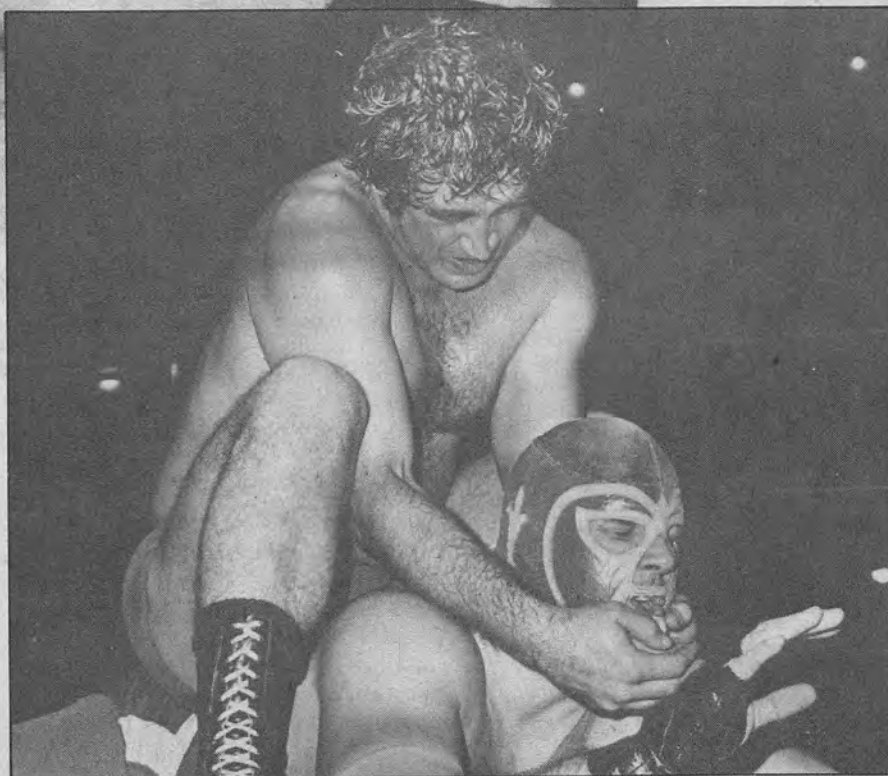
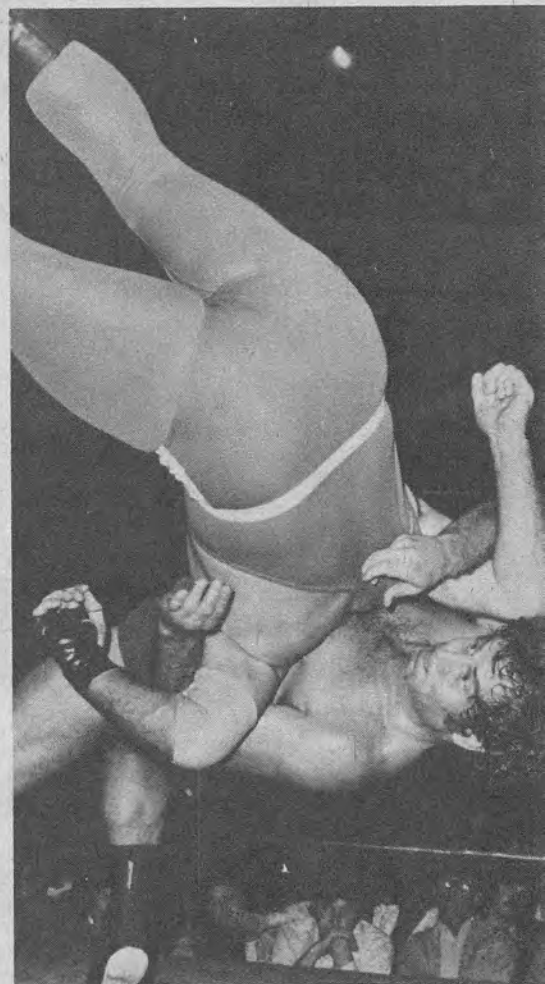
referee can spot him. However, Jack was so great Gary didn't have a chance to be cunning. He could only be obvious and desperate.

Many professional mat stars, who were present at the bout, left the arena with mouths wide open in awe. Few wrestlers who saw Brisco this night exhibit his many skills believed they would ever have a chance at being champion.

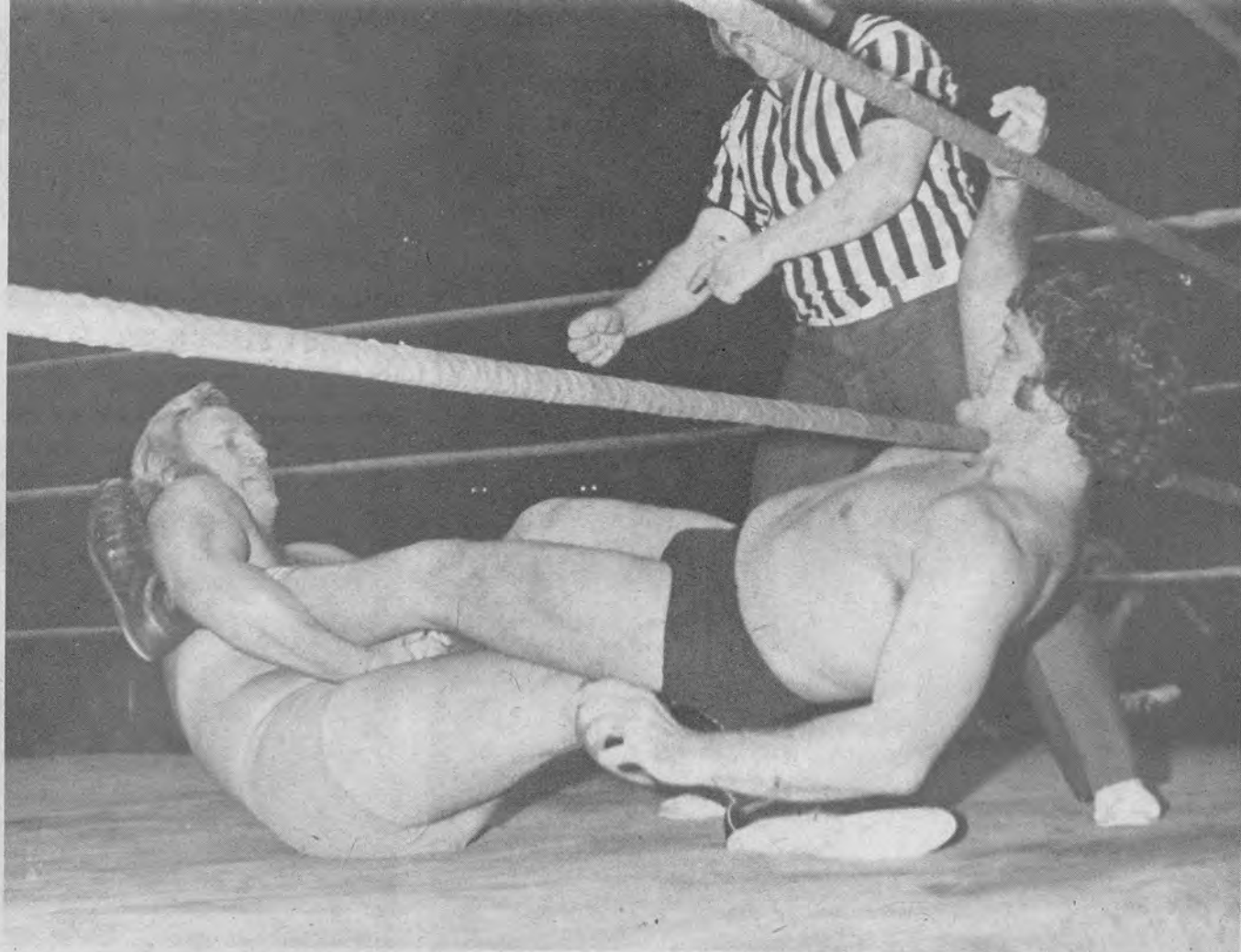
After the match, Brisco was exultant. However, in the light of subsequent events, one can see Jack was not as convinced of his continuing superiority as were

(Continued on page 50)

**Looking back on his
reign as NWA
champion, Jack Brisco
can be proud of every
match. But he can be
especially proud of his
last successful
title defense**



Above left: Spoiler tortures Jack with a clawhold. Brisco quickly escaped; at this point in the brawl, Spoiler could barely stand on his feet, much less mount an attack. Above: Jack's devastating suplex has Spoiler crashing to the canvas. When he hit the mat, the masked grappler let out a scream which shook the arena! Left: Waves of agony shoot through the body of Spoiler as Jack captures him in a front chancery. By this time, even manager Gary Hart gave up hope for a victory!



THE STRANGE PACT BETWEEN NICK BOCKWINKLE AND BILLY ROBINSON

BILLY ROBINSON SOMETIMES behaves like a man possessed. Ever since he came to the United States from Great Britain, he has dreamt of wearing the belt proclaiming his AWA champion.

His search for glory led to a running feud between him and Verne Gagne, when that man held the title. Now Nick Bockwinkle wears the belt, and therein lies the problem for Billy Robinson.

A few years ago, Billy Robinson and Nick Bockwinkle were both top contenders for Verne Gagne's belt. With similar aspirations and similar abilities, it seemed likely someday one of them would be able to claim the belt as his. Therefore the two great grapplers made a gentleman's bet: If one man won the belt, the other would have to leave the area and pursue a different title. After all, the new champion would not be too willing or anxious to relinquish his newly earned laurels to his closest rival.

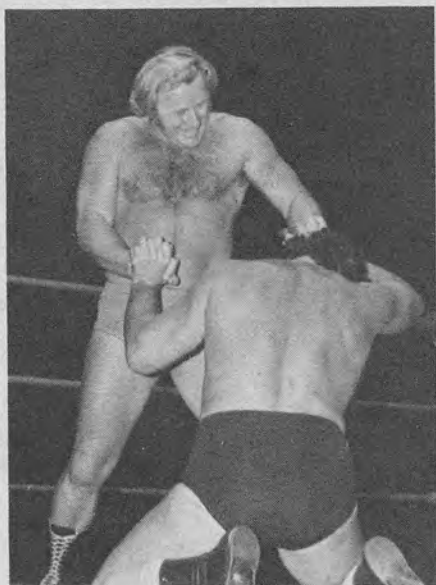
Shortly after the belt changed hands, Robinson was somehow able to convince promoters to match him one last time against Bockwinkle. Nick balked at the proposition at first. He really did not want to put his title on

One man would be champion. One man would leave town. One match would decide the fate of two wrestling stars

PHOTOS BY TERRANCE MACHALEK



Bockwinkle uses every trick in his repertoire, legal or not, to defeat Billy Robinson. The new AWA champion knows if he can rid the area of Robinson, he would be removing a major threat to his title. He'd go to any lengths for a victory!



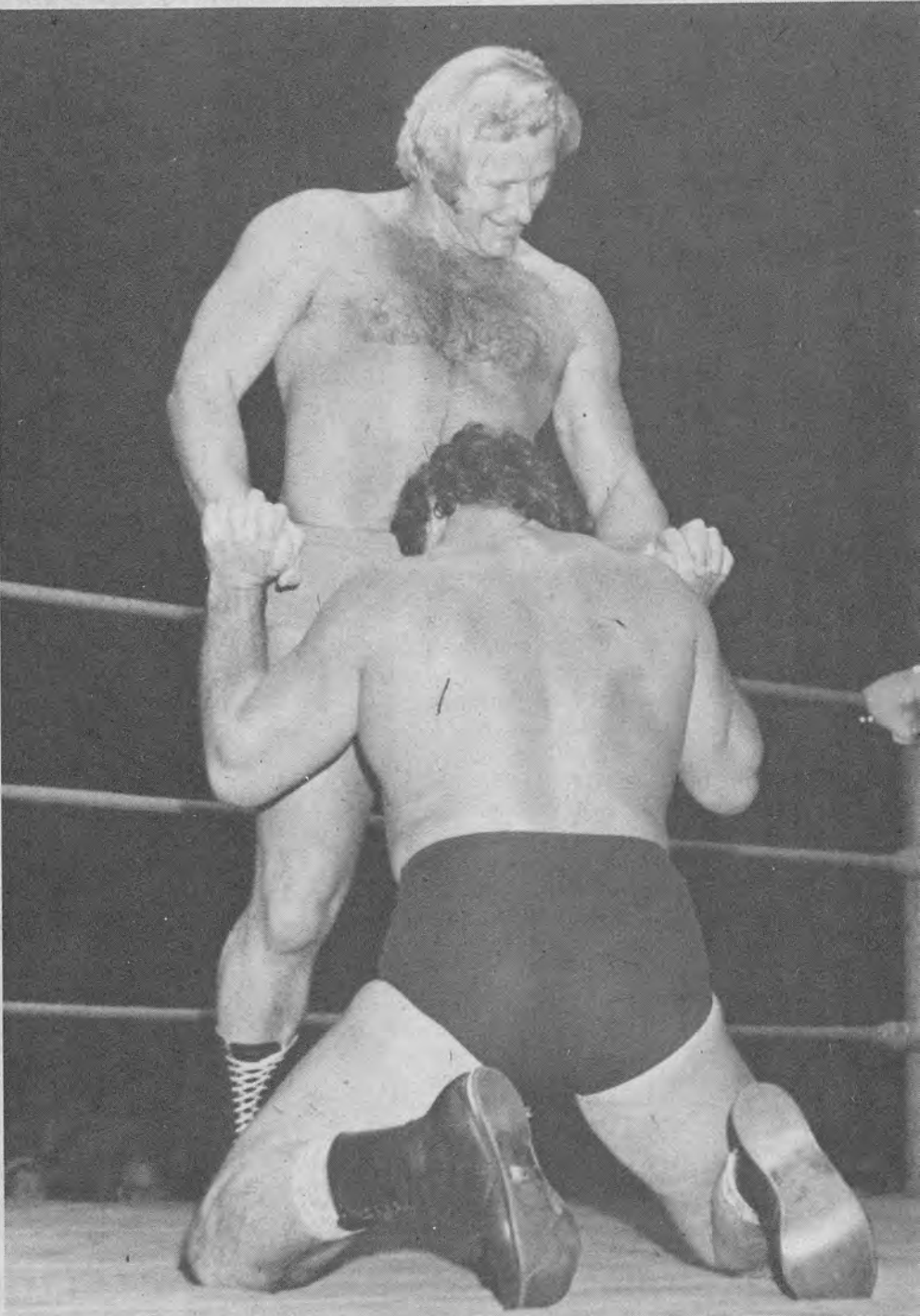
the line. Then he agreed to battle Billy Robinson only if the match would be a non-title match.

Now it was Billy's turn to be upset. Though he had agreed to leave the area eventually, he did want one good shot at the title. When he heard Bockwinkle's stipulations, he added a stipulation of his own: At some future date, to be determined later, Billy Robinson would be allowed to return to the area and have a title match

against Nick Bockwinkle, if the arrangements could be made.

Finally, the contracts were signed by the two grapplers. The wording of the final papers was purposely ambiguous, so one wrestler or the other could be freed of the post-match arrangements if desired.

The night of the match, Robinson sat in his dressing room, talking to reporters. "Tonight I will prove," he said, "I deserve to be the AWA



champion. Even though the match tonight does not have the title at stake, my show of strength will force Bockwinkle to give me another match, this time for the title.

"I have waited a long time for that title. So now I will have to take the belt from Nick Bockwinkle.

"And gentlemen, let me assure you, I will own that belt very soon!"

In his dressing room, Nick
(Continued on page 52)

THE LARGE BROODING figure sits quietly in the corner of the movie soundstage, his thoughts turned inward. He is intently concentrating on the scene he is about to perform before the camera. After five minutes of this introspection, he is ready.

The hot klieg lights are turned on, brightly illuminating the set. The star takes his place in the center of the set. The cameras begin to whirr. The director calls "Action!" Three minutes later the scene is completed. The star walks off the set. Two hours later, thousands of fans are cheering him in a nearby wrestling arena.

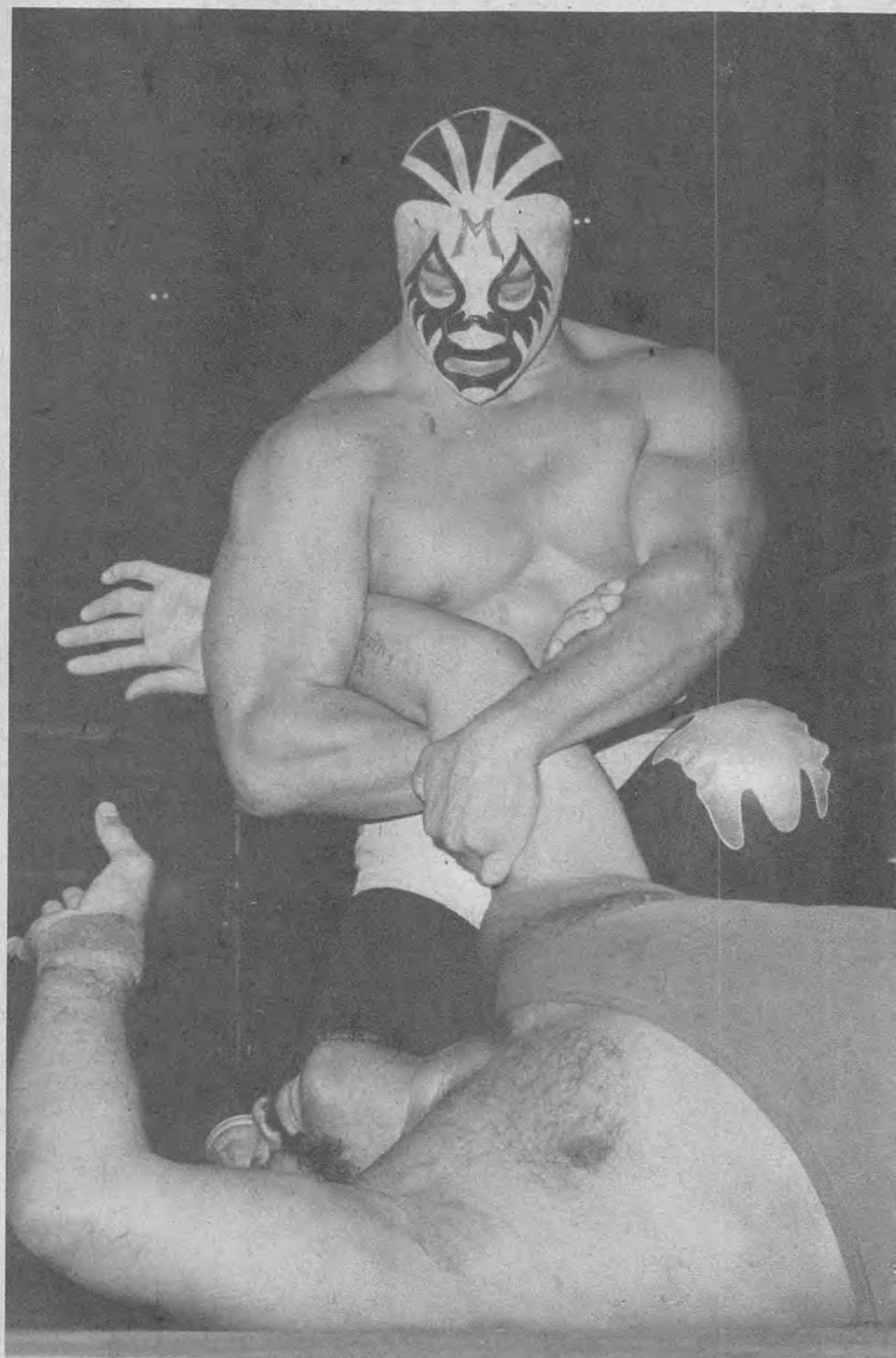
Such is the typical routine for the famous masked wrestler/actor Mil Mascaras. Known throughout the world for his great grappling abilities, Mil is also well known throughout his native country as one of the leading stars of Mexican cinema.

Mil's popularity over the past few years has grown considerably. His fame as a mat star has taken him all over, thrilling wrestling fans in all parts of the globe. But a cinematic career is equally important to Mil. His thrilling, swashbuckling, James Bond-like character has fascinated audiences throughout Mexico.

The masked grappler has pursued his double life since he was a university student in Mexico City. At that time he divided his studies between philosophy, wrestling, and acting.

As time went on, Mil became proficient in both wrestling and drama. He starred in several of the university theatricals. He was also the star wrestler for the wrestling

Cyclone Negro is humbled by Mil's wrestling prowess, only one of Mils' claims to fame!



Everyone in the world has heard of Mil Mascaras. But there is an inner conflict plaguing Mil only few fans understand

THE TWO FACES MIL MASCA



As the star of many Mexican films, Mascaras has been both majestic (above) and athletic (below). No wonder he's such a popular film personality!



team. When he left school, he wanted to pursue both his interests. He joined the Mexican actors union first, but at that time, movie parts were hard to come by. So he turned to wrestling to make a living. His fame as a grappler spread throughout his native land. He came to the attention of a movie producer, and soon his second career was successfully launched.

Mil Mascaras would be the happiest man alive if he could pursue both professional careers

simultaneously. However, such is not the case. When Mil was studying drama at the university, he became involved with the technique of method acting. This requires total and complete concentration for a role, often to the exclusion of any other activity.

Most film critics credit Mil's use of the method technique as the key to his success as an actor. Mil is quick to agree with them. However, Mil is also quick to point out his use of the method takes away time he



S OF RAS



While there's no danger from the "monsters" Mil faces in the movies (above), Mascaras really puts his career on the line when he wrestles animals like Black Gordman (below)!



needs to train as a wrestler.

So the problem Mil must soon resolve is whether he should give up his career as a professional actor or whether he should give up his career as a professional wrestler. Either way, he will be relinquishing a large part of his life. It will not be an easy choice.

Yet Mil realizes his career is rapidly approaching this crucial point. Recently he was contracted to wrestle in Japan, where he is the most popular non-Oriental wrestler. But at the same time, he was involved in preliminary research into a role he was to play in a forthcoming movie. He was torn between his two careers. Fortunately, he was able to



Against The Outlaw, Mil has to use all his athletic ability (above). Whether in the ring or on the screen, Mascaras is always very exciting to watch!

continue his research while in Japan, thereby resolving the conflict. But he knows he will not be able to resolve every conflict in his twin careers so easily.

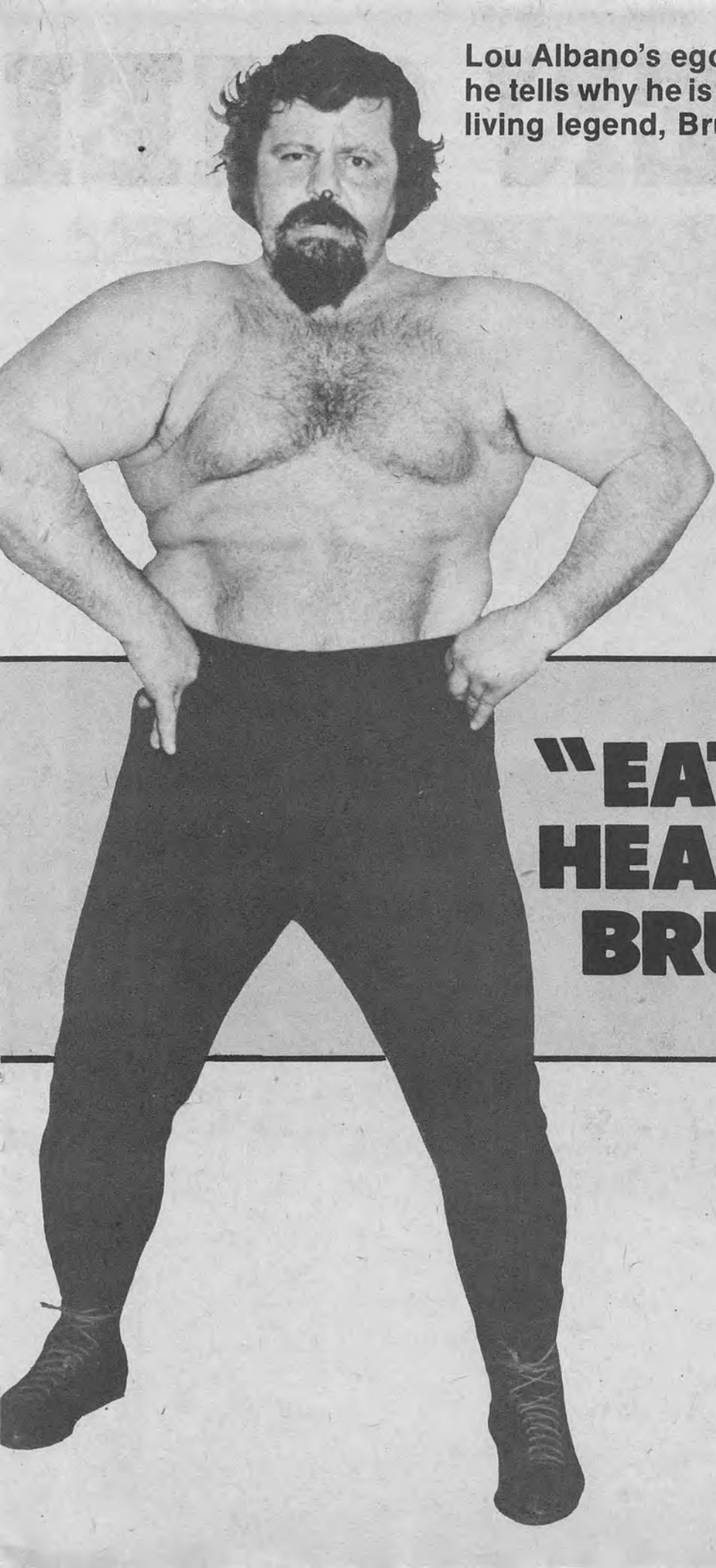
When Mil researches a role, he delves deeply into his subject. Once he was cast to play a member of Mexico's secret police. In order to gain total realism for the role, he became a member of the force for a brief period. Critics have since pointed to this role as his finest acting job. But they did not realize the hard work Mascaras had to put into the part in order to gain realism.

While Mil was masquerading as a secret agent, he had to give up all his wrestling engagements. For many weeks his friends and fans heard nothing from him. It was not until after the movie had been released Mil was able to explain his long absence.

But just as the cinema cuts into Mil's wrestling time, the opposite is equally true. There have been many occasions when Mil has had to rush from the movie studio to the wrestling arena, though he did not have adequate time to prepare for a match. Sometimes he is so worn out from a previous night's match he is not able to perform for the cameras the next day. A match breaks up his intense continued concentration on an important role.

In the end it is clear Mil's worst enemy is time: "I want to be a great wrestler and I want to be a great

(Continued on page 54)



Lou Albano's ego knows no bounds. Here he tells why he is superior in all ways to the living legend, Bruno Sammartino!

BY CAPTAIN LOU ALBANO

PICTURES DON'T LIE. The proof is right on this page. The Captain is the most magnificent human being on the face of this or any other earth. It just goes to show how stupid Bruno Sammartino is when he dares to show his deformed body in the same arena with me. I'm beautiful and he's boring.

Look at the Captain's body. I'm so wonderful I make mirrors sigh with admiration. Is there a woman on earth who can resist my fabulous build? Is there a man alive who doesn't envy me? And they call Bruno Sammartino champion. Compared to me, he's a chump. In fact, compared to 98 percent of the world, he's a chump.

I'm the greatest specimen the human

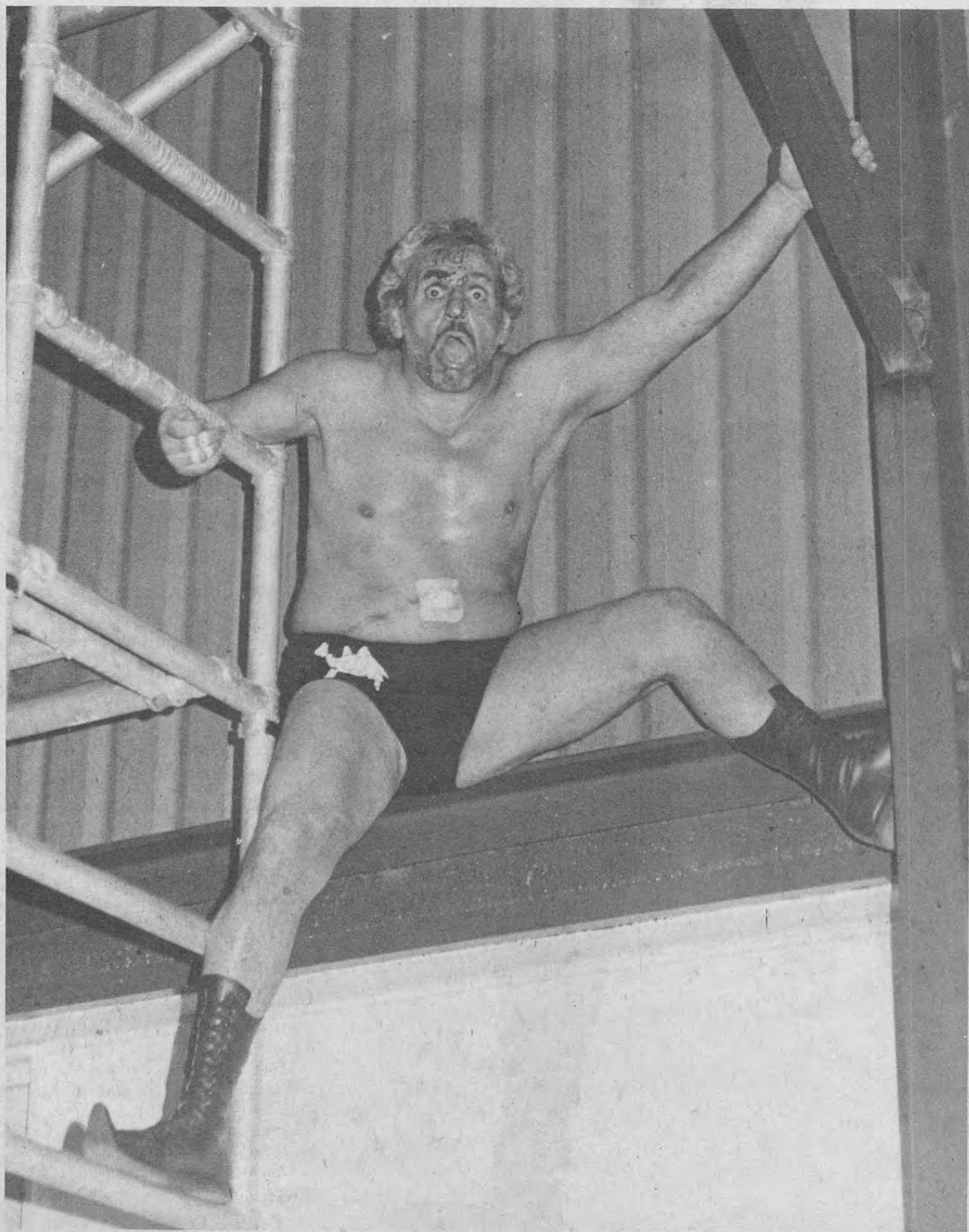
**"EAT YOUR
HEART OUT,
BRUNO!"**

race has ever seen. I've got it all. My body is a temple of perfection. Look at my arms, muscles rippling like the mighty ocean. My chest is a powerpack of might. The muscles on my back allow me to lift cars without breaking a sweat. Just the other day I held up my car with one hand while I changed a flat tire with the other. It was too much trouble getting the jack out of the trunk.

Most important, I've got the most powerful legs in wrestling. I can do anything I want on those two magnificent limbs. I can spring to great heights, I have perfect leverage, and I can throw any opponent off me with a bridge. My legs are the best in

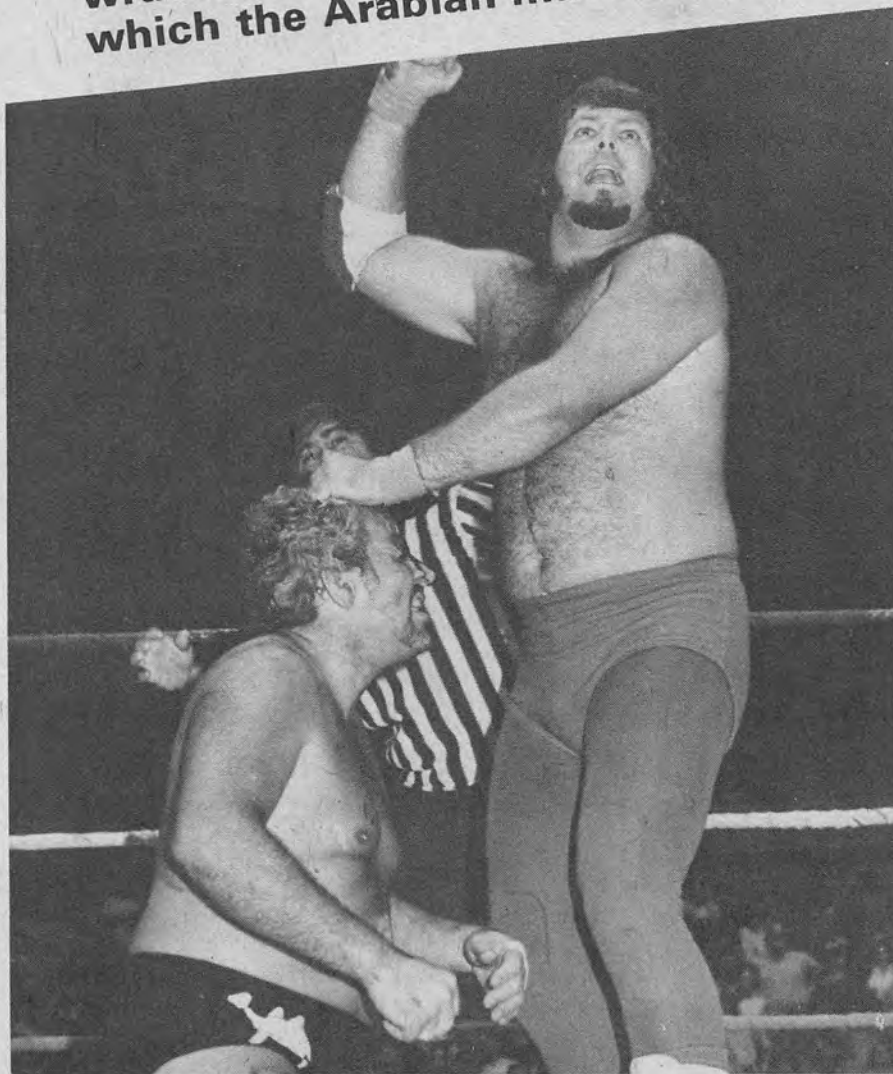
(Continued on page 56)

WHEN SHEI



K FLED FOR HIS LIFE

Many times, men with charred bodies have fled Sheik's wrath. They all relished hearing of the encounter during which the Arabian mat star had to run for his life!



After Jerry Lawler reveals his plastic knife and uses it to slash away at Sheik (above), the despised wrestler decided the ring is the wrong place for him to be. As soon as he frees himself from Lawler's grasp, he leaps over the ropes and scurries to the lofty sanctuary of a ladder, safe from Lawler (left, opposite page).

PHOTOS BY SCOTT TEAL

IT HAD TO be seen to be believed. After a terrifying whirlwind of unrestrained violence, the one thing no one ever expected to see occurred. The shocking image of the moment will remain with spectators forever.

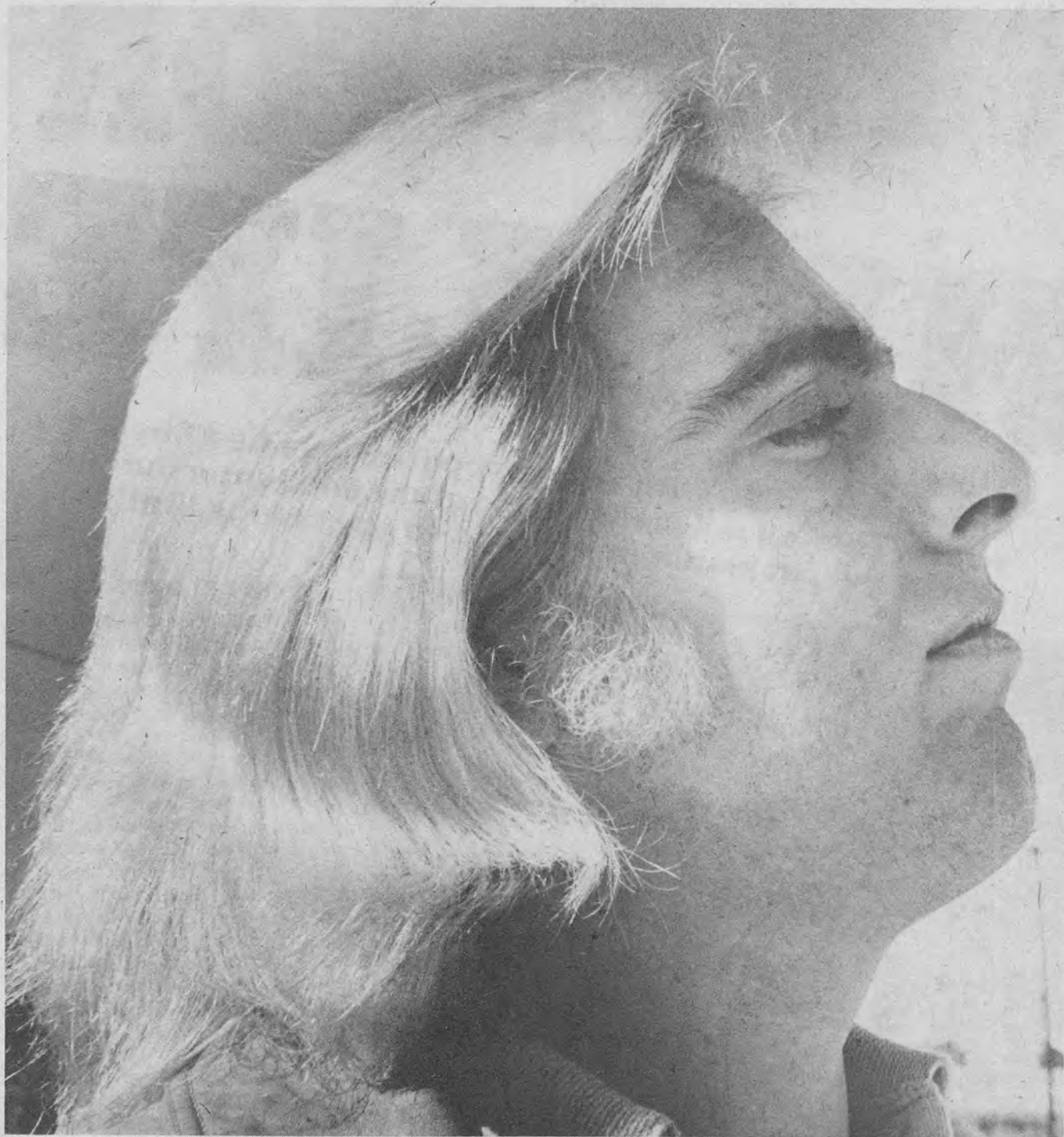
Cowering high above the arena, perched precariously on a ladder, was Sheik, the most dangerous man in professional wrestling. He had fled to this spot attempting to escape the onslaught of his foe, Jerry Lawler. To see Sheik, a man responsible for crippling more men than any other grappler alive, afraid and seeking sanctuary, was truly remarkable.

Sheik's forehead was reeked with blood as he stood high above the crowd. Jerry remained at the foot of the ladder waving a plastic knife drenched in Sheik's blood. From his perch, Sheik could also see the blood-stained ring canvas with a chair lying upon it. The chair had caused Sheik's hasty—and terrified—departure.

It had taken Lawler less than five minutes to place Sheik in mortal danger. Jerry, deciding before the match to come prepared against his unscrupulous foe, brought an arsenal into the ring. It took only a few seconds for Jerry to unleash his weapons.

Sheik didn't know what was happening when the plastic knife came slashing onto his skull. Lawler proved he could hide the weapon from the referee's sight as well as anyone. The official never saw the blunt blade hit

(Continued on page 62)



A horrible accident threatened to snuff out the career of Ric Flair almost before it began. Here is the story of Ric's remarkable recovery—and his plans for the future!

THE YOUNG MAN sat back in his easy chair, propping his feet up on a nearby stool. He took a sip from the glass of tiger's milk he held in his hand, then spoke:

"When I return to the wrestling world, I will be better than ever. There is no force on heaven or earth that can stop me now from being the greatest grappler in history. My life story will be an inspiration to everyone."

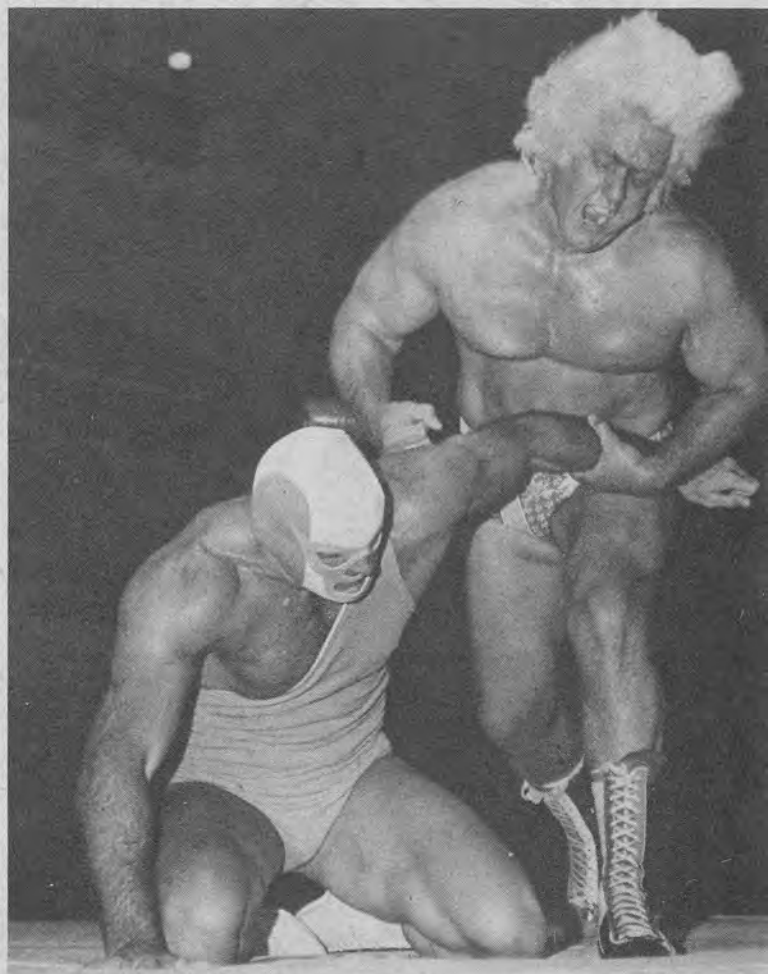
A few months ago, it would not have been possible for this young man, Ric Flair, to even sit up straight. Now he was planning his comeback into the wrestling world, and he was determined to let nothing stop him. And, from all appearances, nothing will.

Ric had been the unfortunate victim of a devastating plane crash in which he had suffered extensive injuries to his

back. As he was rushed to the hospital, doctors wondered if Ric would ever walk again. Flair wondered when he would be able to make his comeback. For the first few days, the attending physicians were positive permanent injury had been inflicted on Ric's spine. But Ric was positive he would be able to overcome the damage to his back. He was so positive he started making plans for what he would do

NOTHING CAN STOP RIC FLAIR NOW

After recovering from his accident, Ric holds his head up high (left, opposite page). Ric has every right to be proud about his battle to once again be a wrestler. Before his accident, Ric was adept at torturing men like the Masked Avenger (above). The question most fans are asking is can Flair return to his old form?



once he became champion.

"You see," says Ric, "the doctors didn't know what I knew—Ric Flair is destined to be the best wrestler in history. So while they were worried about bone structures and slipped discs, I was confident I would soon be walking out of the hospital in better shape than ever. They didn't realize a mere plane crash was not enough to stop Ric Flair. I let them fret for a few days, then I said to one of them, 'Look Doc, there ain't nothing wrong with me. This ol' back of mine is going to be better than ever. So put me in that traction contraption and do what you want to do, but just remember, when I leave here, there won't be nothing

wrong with me.' Well, I'll tell you, that doctor was shocked. He was so sure I would never walk again, he was speechless. He told me to accept the fact of being permanently paralyzed. I told him what he could do with that kind if talk.

"Well, I sure showed him!"

Ric amazed the doctors with his rapid recovery. He was in traction less than a month. Three weeks later, he walked out of the hospital. The only concession he made to the doctors was to temporarily use a cane to assist his walking.

Then he began a rigorous schedule of training in his home. He was determined not to let this setback mar

his rise to the championship. However, he was still unable to wrestle. But as of this writing, he is planning his first few matches, and should be well on the comeback trail by the time you are reading this.

He began his workouts slowly at first. He would only do a few exercises for a few minutes each day. Then he gradually picked up the pace until he was back on a full-time, extremely rigorous training schedule rebuilding the muscles in his body.

But Ric has not become a recluse while rebuilding his body. He attends almost every wrestling match near his home. He periodically advises or coaches fellow wrestlers on several fine points he had learned. He also watches veteran wrestlers, carefully noting each new or novel maneuver he can assimilate into his own style. He has determined his temporary layoff should be a period of learning as well as rebuilding.

(Continued on page 58)



Mr. Wrestling II & Dick Slater... THE START OF SOMETHING BIG!

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER

Mr. Wrestling II and Dick Slater were sworn enemies. Can they now overcome their past and become great—or will the last chapter of their partnership be written in blood?

A TAG TEAM partnership is a very dangerous relationship. The list of former partners now bitter enemies is long and includes many of the top men in wrestling. Sooner or later, the trust between the two men deteriorates into suspicion, hostility, and ultimately violence.

Most of the time, a man chooses a grappler he hopes he can trust as his tag team partner. It could very easily mean tragedy if he chooses the wrong man. Wily veterans usually exercise the most caution in their selection. This is why the wrestling profession was stunned when Mr. Wrestling II and Dick Slater became a tag team.

The memory of Mr. Wrestling II's blood-soaked mask was still fresh in everyone's mind—Slater's savagery

Brute Bernard learns he is in trouble against either Dick Slater (left) or Dick's tag team partner, Mr. Wrestling II (below). Before the bout, it was assumed Slater and his masked partner would be having to worry more about each other than their scheduled opponents!



had managed to open the wounds under the mask. For these two foes to be a tag team was totally unthinkable.

It was supposed the erratic Slater had once again deserted the ranks of Gary Hart's army amid controversy and bitterness. That would at least give a reason for the strange tag team. Yet Slater remains on friendly terms with Hart. And when one considers how deeply Mr. Wrestling II despises Gary Hart, the mystery grows even deeper.

Discovering the reason for this mystery is difficult. Even the participants aren't quite sure why they are together. And very few facts are known about what preceded the strange union.

Slater and Bob Orton, Jr. had won the Georgia tag team titles. But due to scheduling conflicts, the pair gave up the title. Bob was quite willing to sacrifice the honor to pursue his solo career; Slater loved the feel of the belt around his waist. He started searching for another partner—one with whom he could regain his former glory.

After a series of secret negotiations, none of which any party will reveal to the press, Slater and Mr. Wrestling II teamed up. Everyone was stunned except those closest to the two men. In the turbulent world of wrestling, those directly or indirectly involved remained astonishingly calm.

The first man reporters sought for a comment was the volatile Gary Hart. They expected to hear the ugliest denunciations of Slater. Instead, the manager gave perhaps his calmest press conference ever.

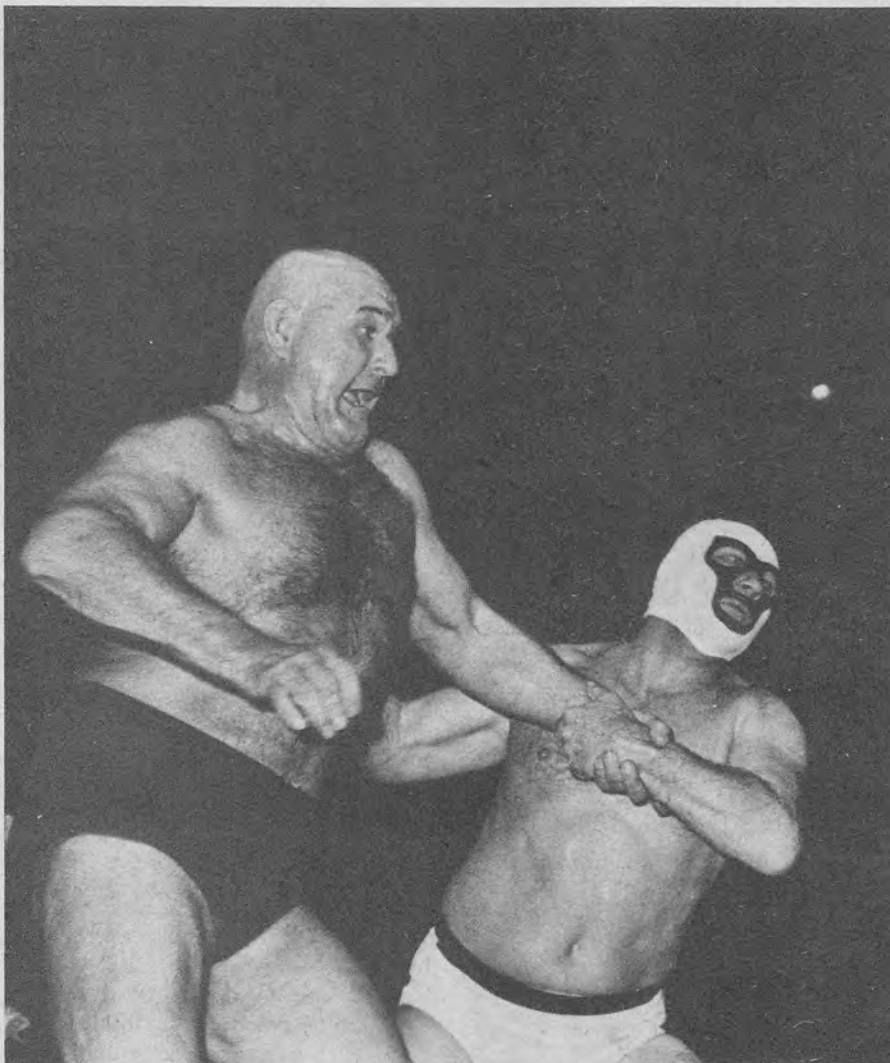
"Dick Slater," Gary said quietly, "is his own man. He's still trying to discover what is best for him as a wrestler, as all great young athletes must do. I wouldn't presume to interfere in any way with a man I respect and a career which will become wrestling legend."

Naturally, Hart was asked if he planned any retaliation against Slater and Mr. Wrestling II.

"I wouldn't go out of my way to confront them as a team," was the passive reply. "If bookings make it necessary for two of my men to meet the tag team, of course we will do our best to defeat them. But wrestling is big enough for both of us. I wish Dick all the best in the world."

Did this mean Hart's vow to drive Mr. Wrestling II from the sport was forsaken?

"You know me better than that, gentlemen," Hart declared angrily. "In the near future, one of my men will



reduce Mr. Wrestling II to a bloody pulp, crippling him permanently. If we get the chance to do it in a tag team match while Slater is his partner, those are the breaks. I hate that masked clown, but I've only the greatest respect for Slater. That's the only reason I'm not going after the pair.

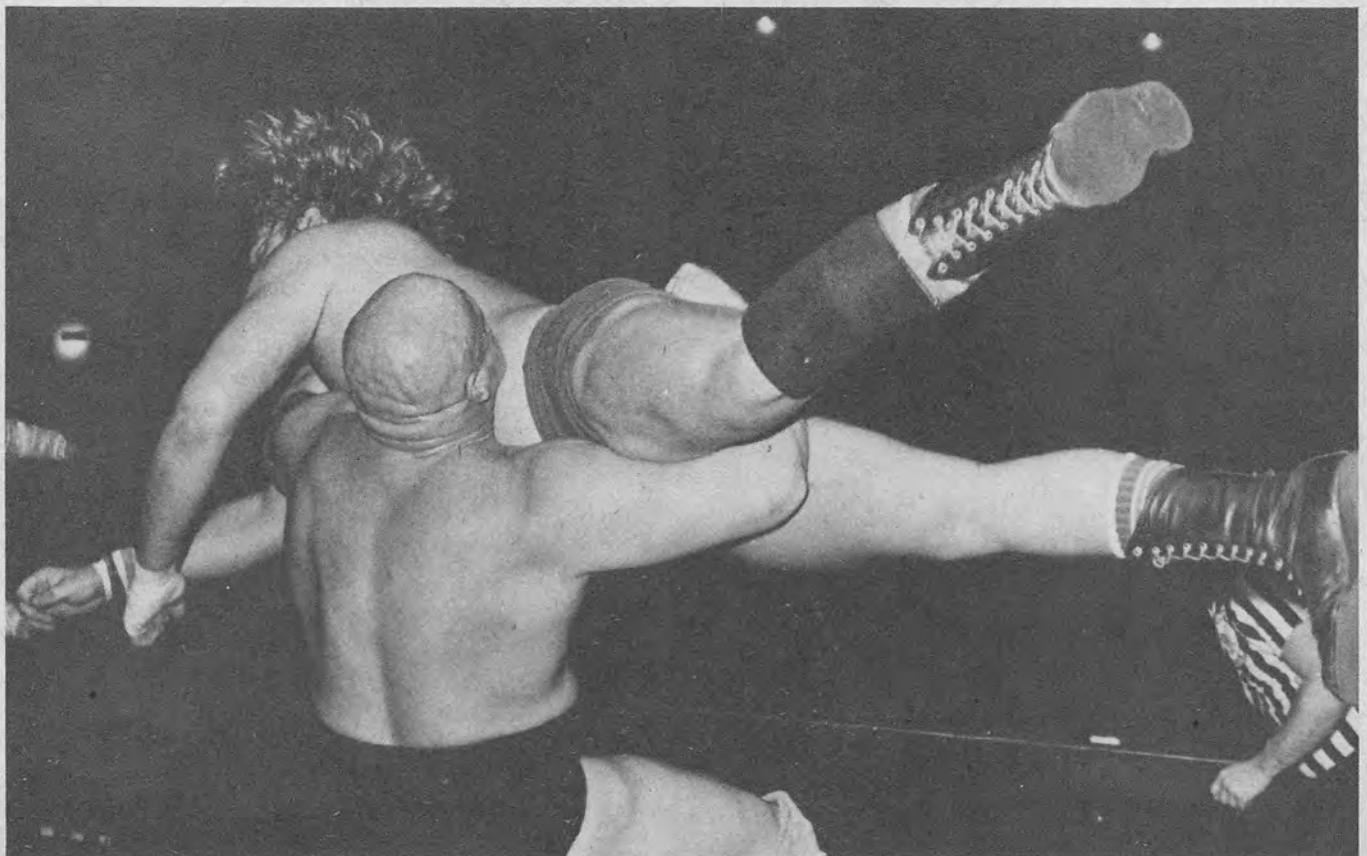
"In fact," Hart concluded, "I wouldn't be surprised if Mr. Wrestling II purposely joined Slater so I wouldn't go after him with all my might. As far as the masked moron is concerned, Dick Slater is sanctuary!"

One got the feeling Hart's taunts against Mr. Wrestling II were shouted out of habit rather than conviction. It was a disquieting press conference for even veteran wrestling reporters.

Slater and Mr. Wrestling II issued a joint statement on their association, but they refused to answer any questions.

"Both of us share the same goal," the statement read, "to become the best tag team possible. Our styles are complementary, as are our methods. The only trouble we have had center around our past conflicts.

After watching Brute Bernard being thrown into the ropes (left) and bodyslammed (right) by Mr. Wrestling II and then floored by a Slater bodyblock (below), it's no wonder Volkoff wants no part of the action.



"As professionals, we believe we can overcome any personality differences to become the best tag team in the world. That is the only important consideration.

"Those close to us personally respect our decision. They have promised to do their best not to provoke arguments between us. We trust each other's professional dedication and the promises of our friends.



"Before we confront reporters, we need to have a few matches. When we feel comfortable together both in and out of the arena, all questions will be answered."

The first match the two battled was against a pair of vicious competitors—Nikolai Volkoff and Brute Bernard—renown for torturing opponents. Against such a dangerous duo, Slater and Mr. Wrestling II would be forced to trust each other. Any treachery would mean tragedy.

It was a brutal match, as could be expected. Volkoff and Bernard used every dirty trick in the book. The partnership of Slater and Mr. Wrestling II was forged under the most intense fire. Yet, they survived magnificently.

No tactic by Volkoff or Bernard made the pair lose its composure. Slater and Mr. Wrestling II worked magnificently as a team. Using cunning and skill, they saved each other time and time again.

Yet, many are still wondering how long this mutual trust can last. Will the past be so easily forgotten? The future holds either a great career for the tag team or a split which will rock wrestling to its very roots! ☐

BATTLING GIRLS

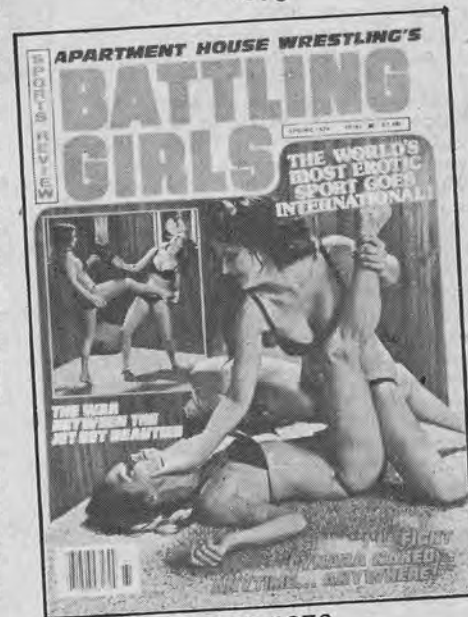
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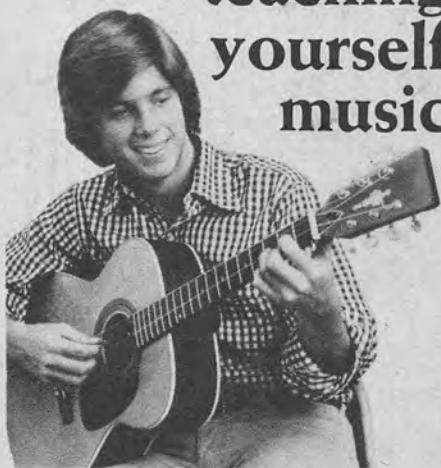
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TEACH A TOWN

(Continued from Page 25)



Above: Before the bout begins, Bastien stuns fans by joining hands with his bitter enemy, Larry Hennig. No one really believed the two men would ever enter the arena as a tag team. Right: Nick Kozak bravely decides to go on with the bout without his tag team partner, injured Ricky Romero. Nick would suffer for his courage!



A man desperate enough to take a partner he hates has to be some kind of tag team battler! When do we get together?"

So the confrontation came in the gymnasium. The two men were very wary of each other in the beginning. It took a few days before mutual respect grew between the pair. Chances are they can never really learn to trust each

other.

The first opponents to face this strange duo were Ricky Romero and Nick Kozak. The two are incredibly popular in Amarillo—just the type of men Bastien wanted to massacre!

There was no attempt by either Bastien or Hennig to wrestle; their mission was one of destruction. Before Romero could even take his jacket off,



Bastien delights his dragging Nick Kozak across the canvas in a headlock. Red's joy comes from the sorrow fans experience at such a horrifying occurrence!

Red and Larry were beating him senseless. A forearm smash across Ricky's neck sent the popular mat star toppling over the ropes and onto the concrete floor. As the sickening crunch of Ricky's skull smacking concrete was heard throughout the arena, everyone knew there would be no more wrestling for Romero this evening!

Red saw the look of horror on the fans' faces and became ecstatic. Kozak, staring at his partner being carried off, was outraged. Bravely, or perhaps foolishly, Nick demanded the match be continued.

Nick battled with all his skill, but he couldn't hope to conquer two unscrupulous opponents. Nick's courage was in stark contrast to the ugly tactics of his foes.

When the match was over, Red Bastien wasn't happy. The grappler takes no pride in injuring his colleagues. It is just something he believes the fans of Amarillo have forced him to do. □

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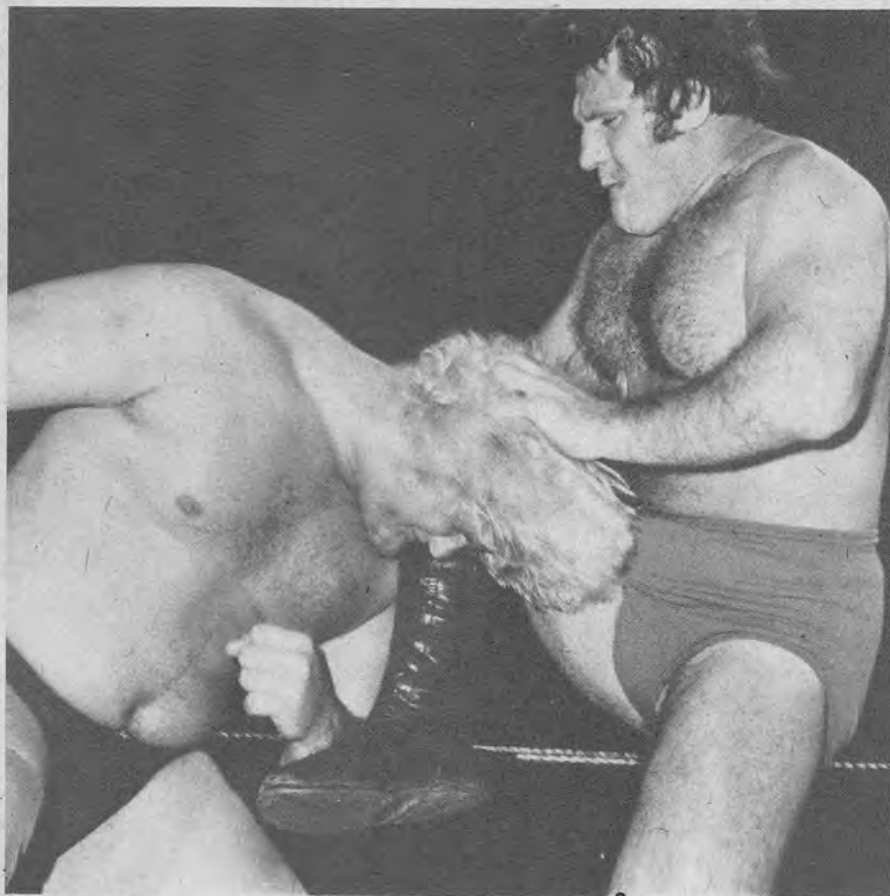
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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from Page-12)



Above: Defending his title against men like Bobby Duncum but not Ivan Putski or Chief Jay Strongbow has angered many of Bruno Sammartino's fans. Below: Fans angrily write for the banning of Spiros Arion.



has been champ, not one clean wrestler has had a title shot. In the AWA, Billy Robinson had many matches against then-champion Verne Gagne. Jack Brisco often defended his title against Dory Funk Jr.

Some wrestlers have had shots who did not deserve the chance. Koloff came, title shot. Steel came, title shot. Ladd, Arion, and Graham have found it equally easy to obtain title shots.

What about the other wrestlers who never seem to have title shots? Ivan Putski and Chief Jay Strongbow are only two such men. Strongbow left the area, probably from sheer disgust. But Putski has been winning. In fact, he's undefeated. He's beaten most of the top contenders.

WWWF, please give these men the title matches they deserve. Who does Putski have to beat to prove it?

ART WITTENSTEIN
Queens, New York

CHANGE AGAIN

I want to thank you for publishing the greatest magazines in the world! I buy each issue and read it cover to cover!

I just want to say that Spiros Arion is a creep and should be banned. He



Vicki Williams is tortured in a Donna Christenello armlock. The pretty blonde grappler has been having it rough lately but her legion of fans remain as loyal as ever. With their support, will she try someday to take the women's title from Fabulous Moolah?

had no reason whatsoever to turn his back on Bruno and Strongbow as he did. To make matters worse, the rat signs with the biggest rat of all, Fred Blassie.

Arion should return to being a scientific wrestler. C'mon, Arion, SHAPE UP!

PAUL GALLANT
Portland, Maine

BRIGHTER FUTURE

I was horrified to read "Vicki Williams: Shattered Dreams and Broken Spirit" (INSIDE WRESTLING/February 1976). For years I've admired Vicki's skill, courage and integrity. If she surrenders her ambition to become the women's wrestling champion, it will break the hearts of her many fans.

No difficulty should be too great for Vicki to overcome. Her fans need her. She's a beacon of hope for all those who hate the ruthless tactics of Fabulous Moolah. Without Vicki, we'd despair for the fate of decency in women's wrestling.

Vicki Williams will someday be champion. All those who admire women's wrestling must believe this.

SALLY BEDDOW
Poughkeepsie, New York ☐

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JACK BRISCO

(Continued from Page 31)



Above: Spoiler puts his hands in front of his face as he tries to ward off the wild forearm smashes of an enraged Brisco. Right: Jack gets set to put his masked foe into a fine figure four leglock. Only the interference of Hart stopped him.



those who had seen him wrestle.

"I was right tonight," Jack said happily. "You get the feeling you can do anything. I felt nothing could possibly go wrong. It's the splendid sensation for which you take all the hardships of being a professional grappler.

"Tonight is the kind of match that makes you know the difference between being a participant and being a spectator. No one watching

the match could have understood how wonderful it felt to be me. Nothing compares with executing a series of maneuvers perfectly, sure before you do it that it will work just fine."

We then asked Jack how often he experienced this wonderful sensation while wrestling.

"Not as much as I'd want to," Jack admitted ruefully. "There have been too many matches recently

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seeming more like work than like something I enjoy. I'm confident of winning at all times; I'm just not always sure I can do my best. The fans may not notice the difference as much as I do. Even other wrestlers can't always tell. But I know."

Jack's delight in the match made it impossible for him to remain unhappy for long. He spoke excitedly of all the wonderful things that happened in the match. Recalling them over and over was thrilling to him.

When Jack Brisco left the arena, he was the picture of a contented man. He had proven himself to be a great grappler. He had never been sharper. At this rate, he believed, he would be champion for years to come.

Jack Brisco was not an ordinary champion. His greatness was proven right up until the match he lost the title. Spoiler didn't even try to say he had softened Jack up for Terry Funk. Some matches are so great they can humble even Spoiler and Playboy Gary Hart. ☐

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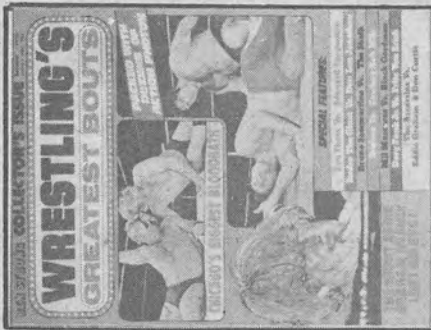
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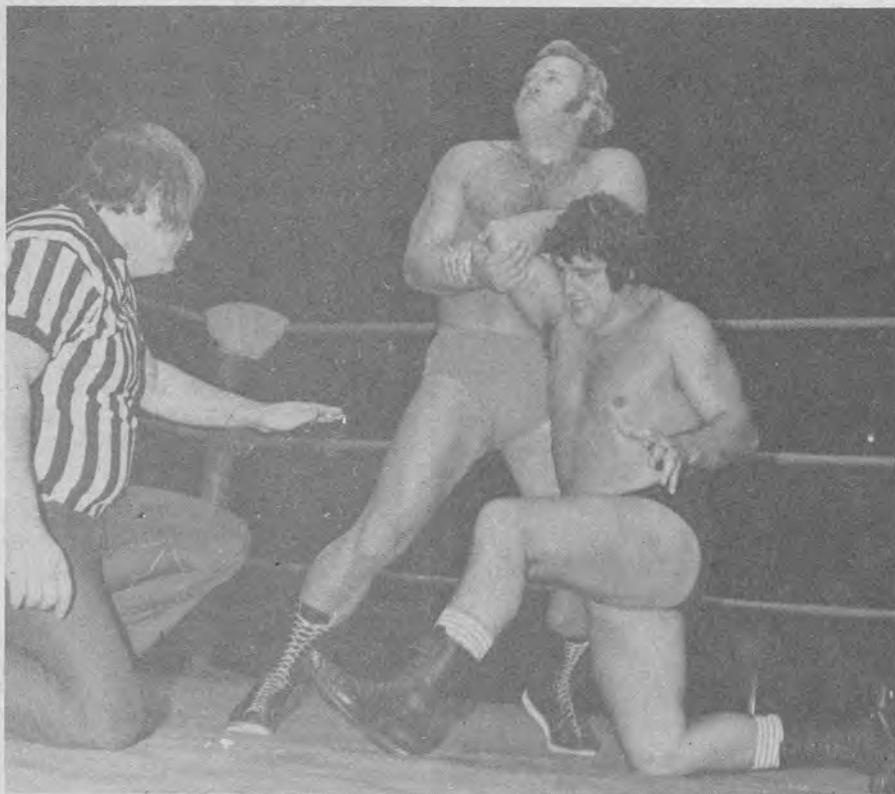
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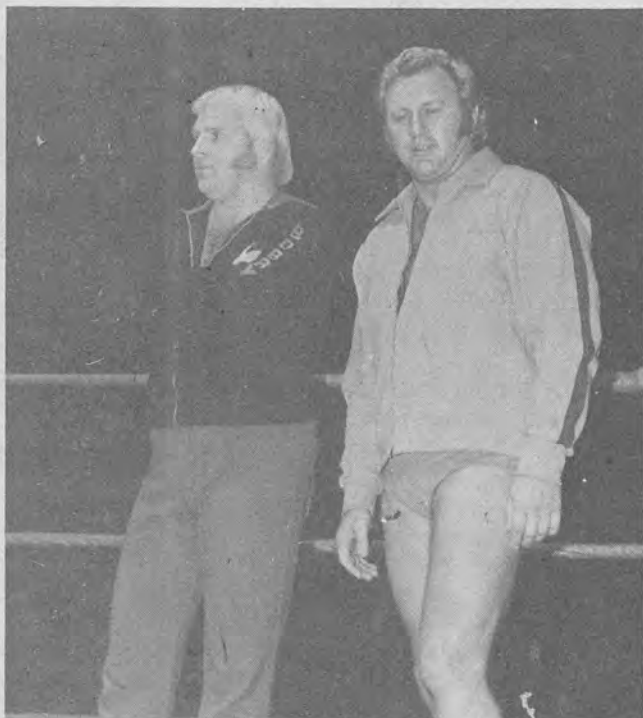
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THE STRANGE PACT

(Continued from Page 33)



Above: Nick is using every bit of strength he possesses to bring Robinson to his knees with an armlock. In turn, Billy uses all his might to work himself free of the hold. In a great display of grappling skill, Billy escaped in only a few seconds! Right: Nick is confident when manager Bobby Heenan stands at his side.



Bockwinkle sat calmly, waiting for the match to begin. He was not nervous about the match that night: "I have nothing to worry about. Billy Robinson is a good wrestler, but I know I am better. If he really was so good, he would have been champion a

long time ago.

"However, I do not want anyone to believe I am running away from a title match with Robinson. This simply is not true. I just feel there are other men I would rather risk my title with. In due time I might change my mind about a

return match for the title, but for now, I think the humiliation Billy will receive tonight will dash any of his hopes for ever having the belt."

Five minutes later, the two formidable men faced each other, ready to do battle. A few seconds after the bell sounded, the war began.

The action started with Billy rushing toward Nick, knocking him to the canvas. But Bockwinkle was able to scramble quickly to his feet. He grabbed Robinson's arm and held it in an armlock. Billy struggled to free himself from the hold, but Nick kept increasing the power behind the maneuver. Slowly Billy sank to the canvas, painfully crying out for Nick to release his arm.

Instead of doing what his opponent asked, Bockwinkle grabbed Billy's free hand, forcing Robinson down on his knees before Nick in a brutal test of strength. At first it appeared Billy would have to submit. Then slowly Robinson's reserves of strength were summoned and he broke free of the hold. It was his first indication of what lay ahead.

Now Billy had control of the match. In a series of complicated maneuvers, Bockwinkle was floored by Robinson, and nearly forced to submit several times. Every time Billy employed a hold on Nick, the AWA champion became weaker and weaker.

Calling upon a last burst of strength, Nick seized Robinson around the legs, sending the challenger crashing into the ropes. Then Nick grabbed tightly on Billy's legs, thereby catching Robinson's neck in one rope. Billy began to choke. He was unable to resist the attack.

The referee stepped in and stopped the match, declaring Billy Robinson the winner and disqualifying Nick because of the choking tactic.

Soon after the two grapplers had returned to their dressing rooms, a memo was sent to Billy Robinson from Nick Bockwinkle. In the short communication, Nick made it clear to his challenger he would not meet Robinson in a return title match—he was using the contract as a means of escape. Billy was furious, but helpless.

If the two men are to engage in a title match, new contracts will have to be negotiated, new agreements will have to be made. In the meantime, Billy Robinson will just have to sit and wait for a chance at the title he has craved for so long. And he will have to do it out of town. ☐

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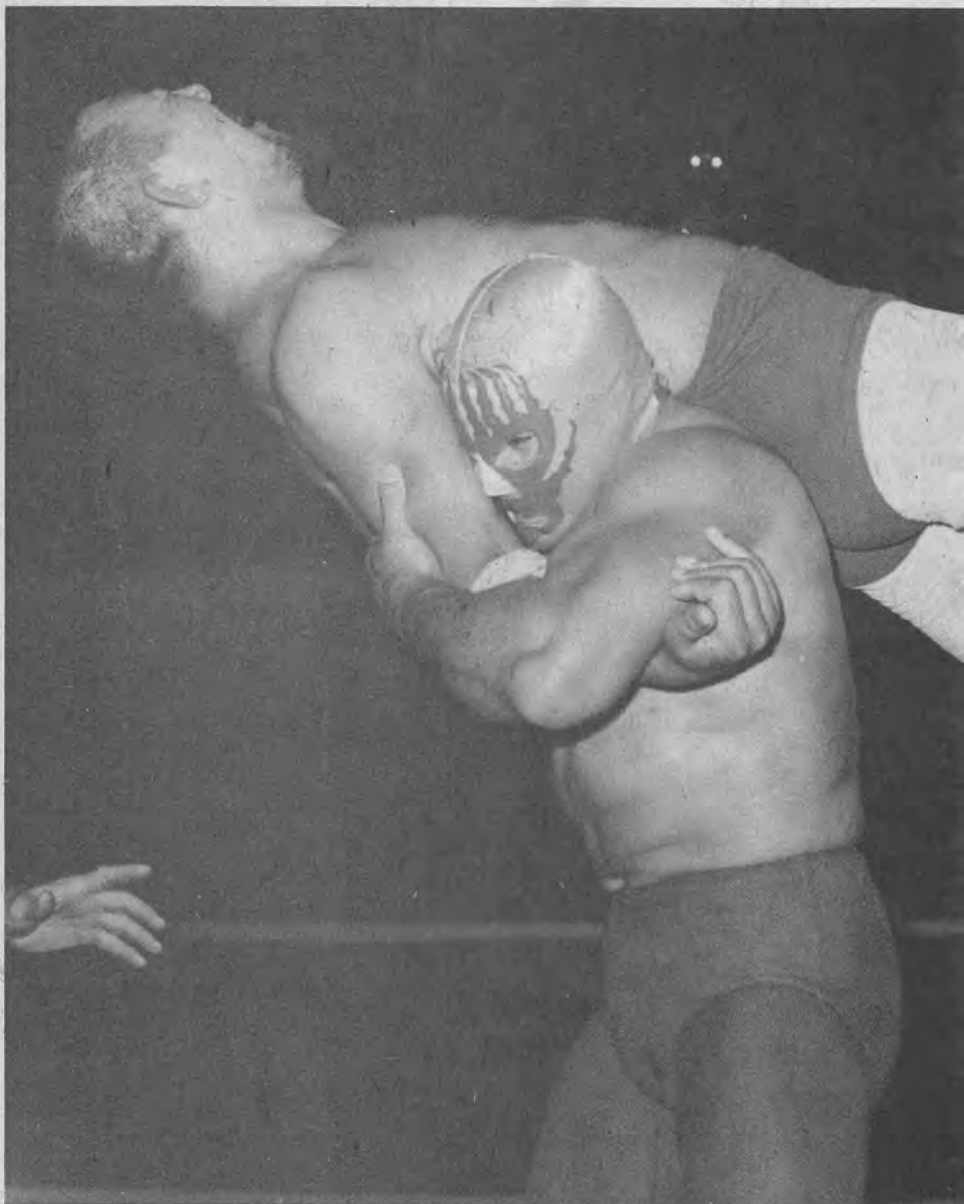


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MIL MASCARAS

(Continued from Page 36)



In Mexico, Mascaras is equally renown for defeating wild and ruthless opponents like Great Kojika (above) and saving the lives of beautiful maidens in his exciting screen exploits (below)! Quite a combination!

actor," he says. "But there are just so many hours in a day and no more. I know I could be the greatest wrestler in the sport's history if I could devote all my energies to this one end.

"However, I also know I could be immortalized as a Mexican film star. I don't want to give up either career. Yet in the end, I know one of my two careers must be left behind."

And therein lies the problem for Mil Mascaras: Which career should



Mil's motorcycle is as famous to Mexican movie fans as were the horses of our favorite American cowboy movie stars.

he abandon in favor of the other? He knows if he gives up wrestling, thousands of fans around the globe will be disappointed. But he knows he cannot give up acting either, for he loves the lively art and has thousands of fans who follow his screen career regularly.

So this is the dilemma facing Mil Mascaras. On one hand, he wants to pursue both his acting and wrestling careers: On the other hand, he realizes he soon may be forced to give up one of his two careers for the other... And he does not know which one he will choose.

"Naturally, I favor my wrestling career," Mil says, "but I still want to be in the movies. I consider being one of the world's top grapplers to be an honor I sometimes feel unworthy of. There have been so many glorious moments in wrestling, I couldn't begin to remember them all.

"Yet, I love to act. I have loved to act since I was a university student in Mexico City. How can I give up something as vibrant and alive as acting? How can I forego something so important to me?"

Where Mil will go from here is anyone's guess. He knows he will be forced to make that crucial decision between wrestling and acting. But he still doesn't know which career he will choose to pursue. And which one he will have to leave behind. □

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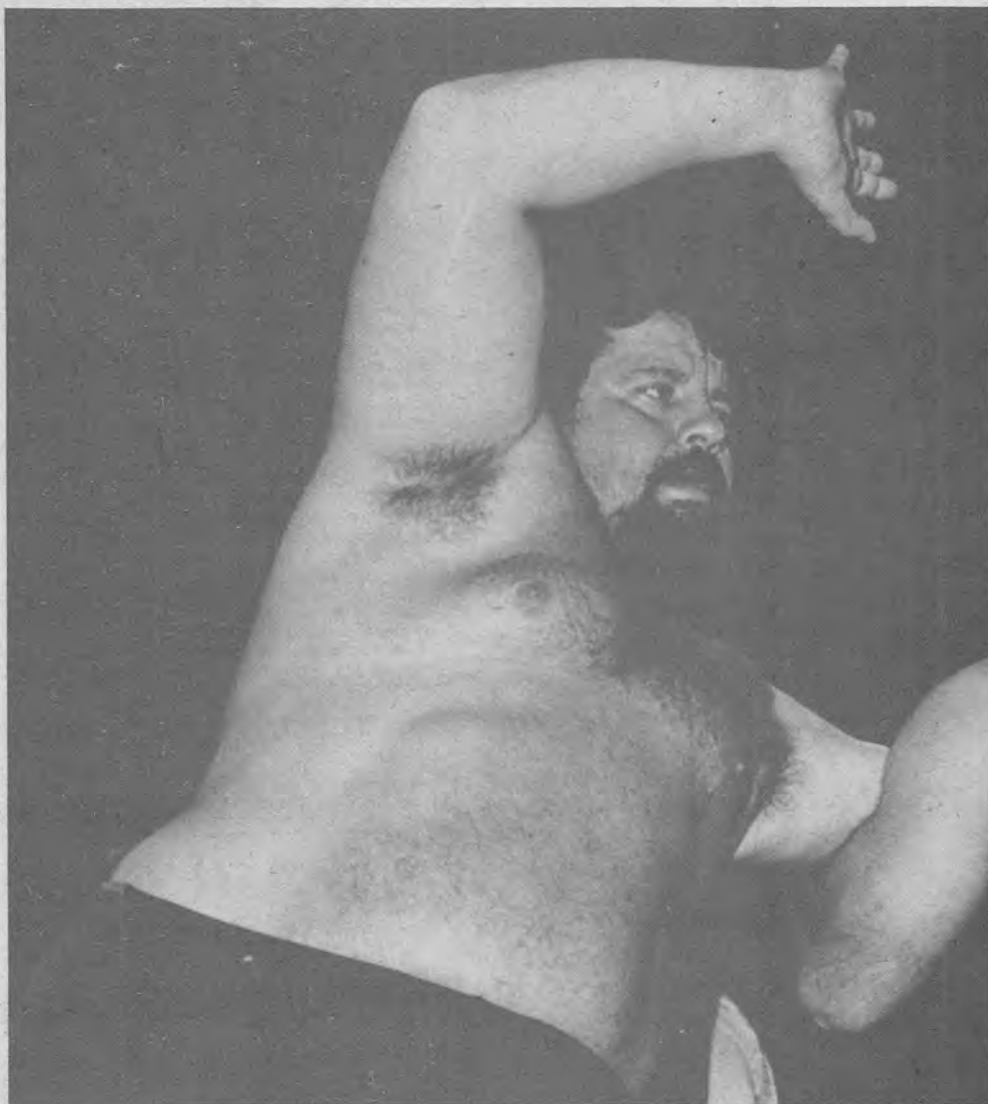
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EAT YOUR HEART OUT

(Continued from Page 37)



Above: Albano flails about in agony as Louis Cerdan tortures him in a brilliantly executed armlock. Left: Albano thinks nothing of pounding his closed fist into Tony Parisi's face. Maneuvers like this are typical of the way Albano goes to war!

wrestling—probably the best in professional sports. An athlete's legs are the first to go. Sammartino's are gone; mine are wonderful.

Of course, being the most handsome man in wrestling is not my greatest accomplishment. My wrestling genius, making me the most brilliant manager in wrestling history, has made people tend to forget I'm also the greatest wrestler who has ever lived. Only the demands by my wrestlers keep me from taking the championship away from that clod



Sammartino. And don't think Sammartino doesn't know it!

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It is pathetic to see Sammartino watch me wrestle. His stupid mouth hangs open in wonder—he can't believe anyone can be so much better than he is.

I am the Captain. I am wonderful. Bruno Sammartino, eat your heart out!

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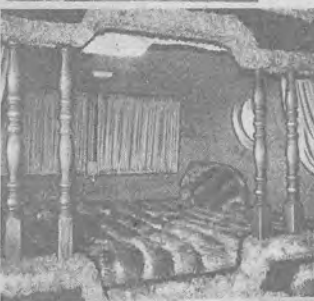
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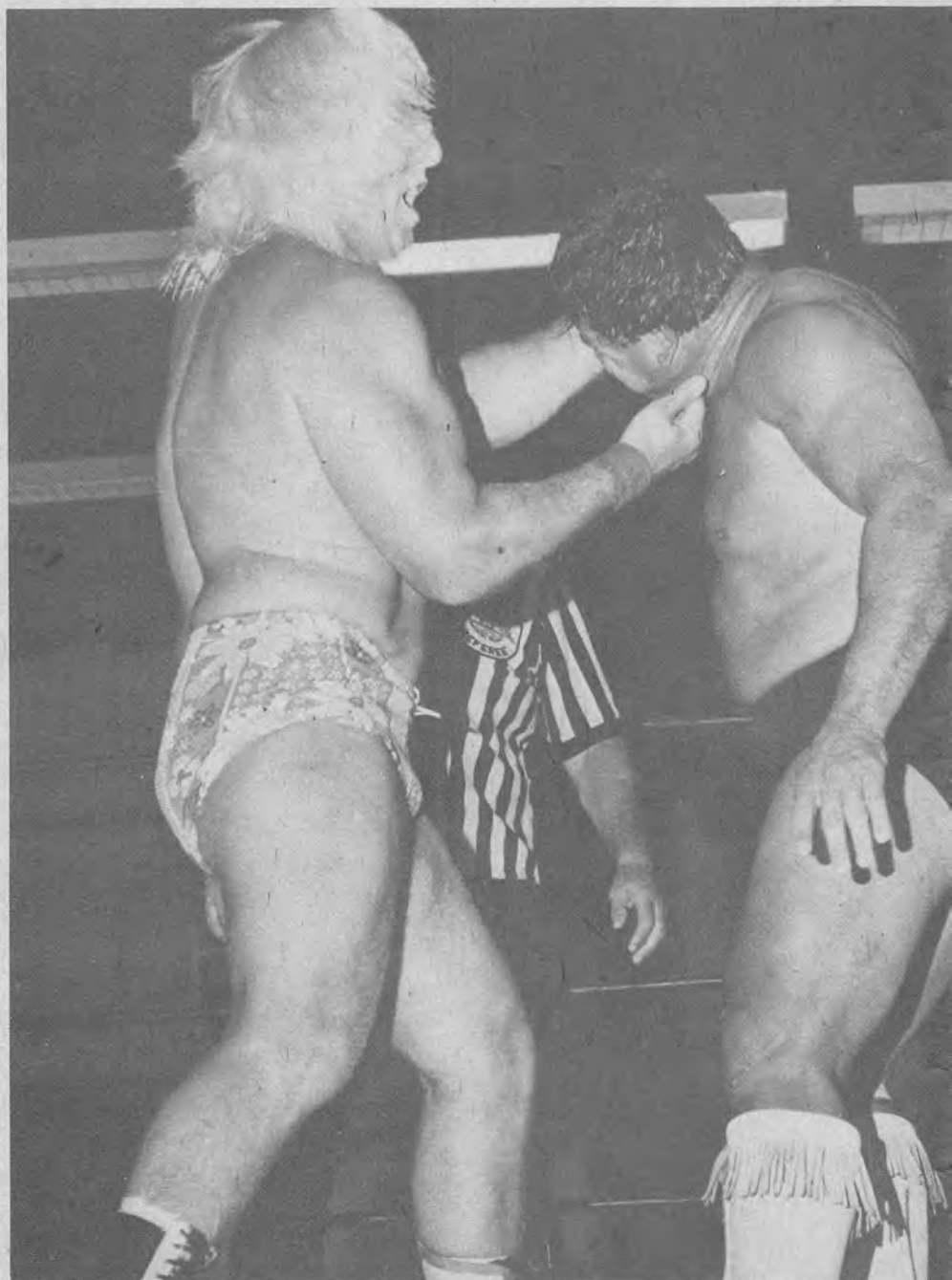
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RIC FLAIR

(Continued from Page 41)



In spite of his injuries, Ric still claims he will be "greater than Buddy Rogers ever was. All the fans will love me. Women will adore me and fall prone at my feet. I will be the greatest wrestler the world has ever seen.

"First I'm going to take on Paul Jones for his United States title. Then I'll go straight to Terry Funk and grab his NWA belt. From there, who knows how far I can go? As far as I am concerned, the sky is the limit. I almost feel sorry for any wrestler who gets in my way!"

Before the accident, Ric told reporters he had a timetable for

himself as to when he would become champion. He now admits the accident has slowed things up a bit. But he quickly adds, "I have been slowed, but certainly not stopped."

Ric sat back and took another drink from the glass he held in his hand. A broad grin came to his face—he was thinking to himself how great the world would be when he became champion. He knew there would be no threats to his title, because no man could ever beat him. A feeling of self-satisfaction came over him, and he slowly relaxed deep into the folds of the material of the easy chair. He



Before the plane crash, Ric was one of the finest young wrestlers in the country. Veterans like Sonny King (above) and Wahoo McDaniel (left) learned how tough a rookie Ric Flair was. Now Ric Flair is hoping to soon be victorious again inside a wrestling arena—just like he always was in the past (below).



closed his eyes, and breathed an audible sigh.

Suddenly, he sat upright in the soft chair. He hastily downed the drink in his hand and excused himself to continue his training. He quickly left the room and headed for the private gymnasium in the basement of his house. He would not emerge from that room until three hours later—exhausted, sweating, and confident about what lay ahead for him. □

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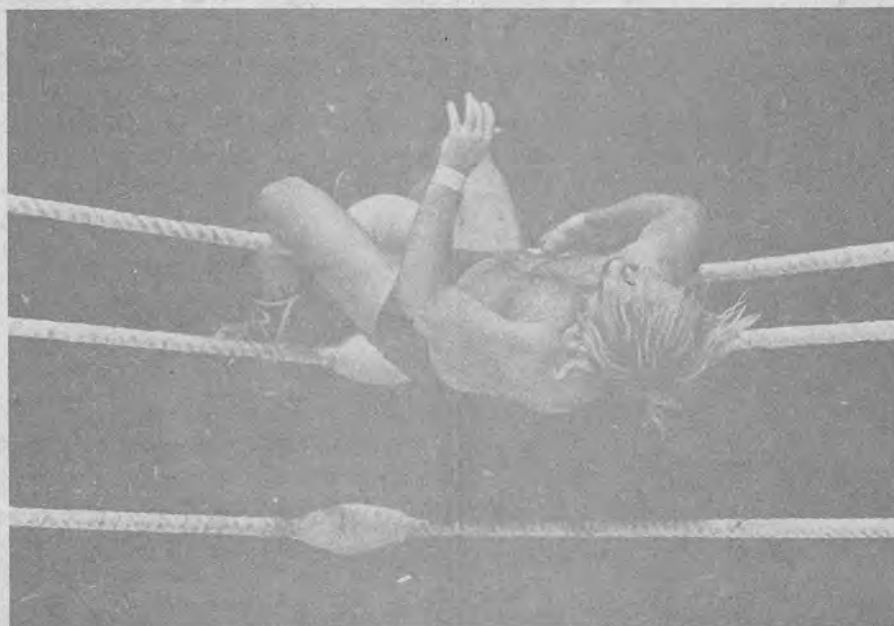
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WRESTLING CAPITALS

(Continued from Page 10)



Jacques Goulet finds himself all tangled up in the ropes. The Legionnaire found himself in this predicament after being hurled in the air by Crusher during one of the wildest matches ever!

Graham was not about to lose this match, so he used one of his famous Superstar Hugs on the champion. Within a few minutes, Bruno was on his knees in front of Graham.

Sammartino finally pushed Billy into the ropes, forcing a break. Then Graham threw Bruno out of the ring and went after him. The referee started counting, but the two men kept slugging it out. When the count was at 11, Graham started back, but Bruno pulled his challenger back outside the ropes.

At the count of 17, Sammartino was back inside the ropes. By 19 Billy was half-way inside. As the count reached 20, Graham was all the way in, except for his left foot. The referee awarded the match to Sammartino, much to the crowd's approval.

INDIANA ACTION By Ted Dresser

Once again, Indianapolis was the scene of the most exciting action in the Hoosier state. Bruiser and Crusher faced stiff competition from the notorious tag team of The Legionnaires, who were under the new management of Gentleman Saul Weingeroff.

The match was wild from the start. Soldier LeBoeuf began the

action by rushing at Crusher, knocking him to the canvas. Crusher bounced right back up and grabbed LeBoeuf in an armhold. The soldier struggled to free himself, but only managed to escape by giving Crusher a right to the jaw. He then rushed over and tagged his partner, Jacques Goulet.

Jacques ran in and started beating Crusher. But Crusher was able to withstand the attack, and soon turned the bout around. Then Crusher gave Goulet a powerful bodyslam, and The Legionnaire was temporarily left dazed on the mat while Crusher tagged his partner.

With Bruiser in the action now, things became more excited. Bruiser and Goulet kept reversing each other's holds, with neither holding the lead for more than a few seconds at a time.

Suddenly, Bruiser was clearly in control, pounding Goulet's head time and time again. Jacques looked like he was about to crumble from the attack. Just then Gentleman Saul Weingeroff stepped into the ring, and began pounding on Bruiser with his briefcase and cane. The referee stepped in and broke up the three men.

When the dust settled, the referee decided to disqualify The Legionnaires for interference by their manager. □

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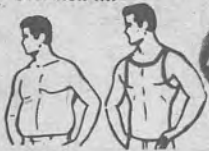
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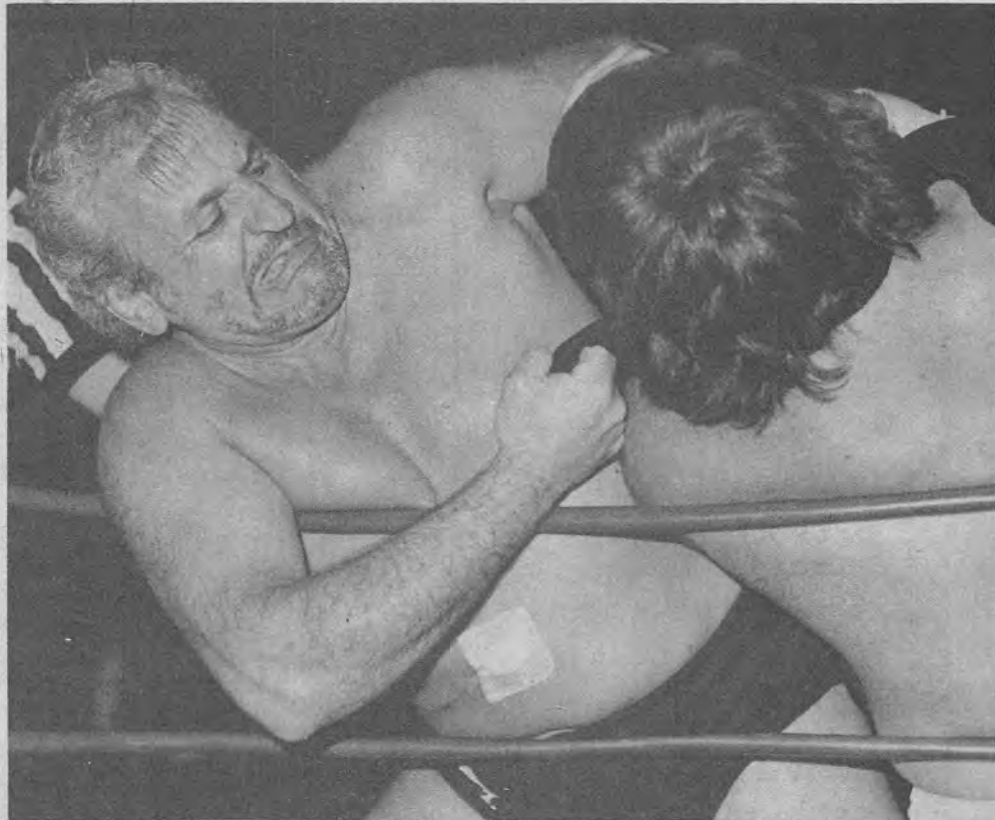
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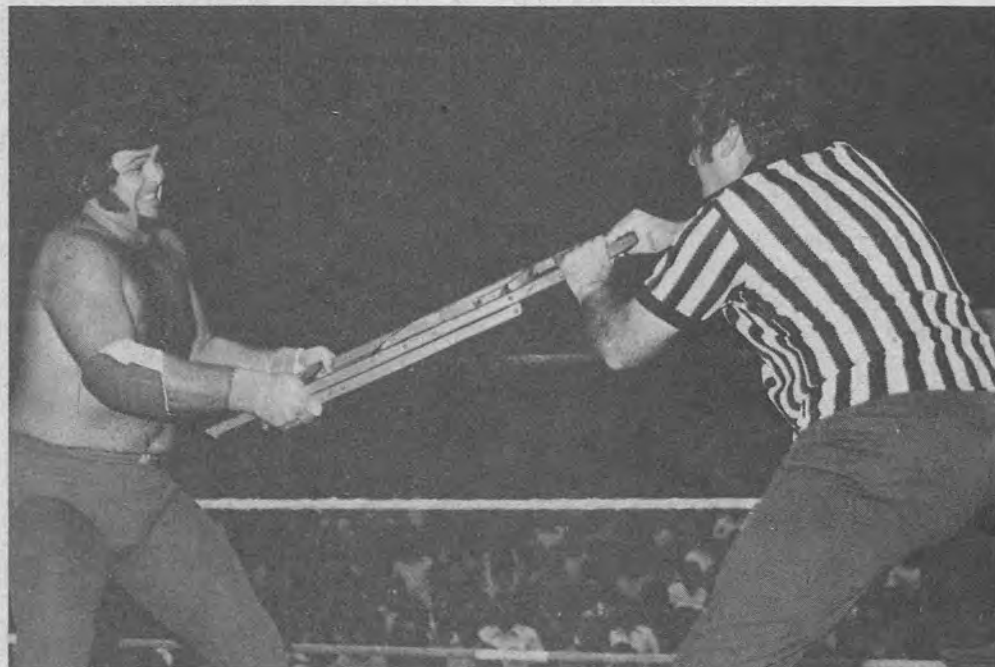
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SHEIK

(Continued from Page 39)



Above: Before the match begins, Sheik attacks Jerry and tangles Lawler in his own coat! At this point Jerry must have sworn to use every weapon in his vast arsenal! Sheik would soon learn how two men can play at using illegal tactics. Below: The referee bravely tries to take the chair away from Lawler, who still wants to use it against Sheik. While the two men struggle over the chair, Sheik runs away as fast as his legs can carry him off!



home time and time again. Sheik couldn't understand what was going on—someone else had brought in a foreign object!

Sheik reeled to a corner to escape the attack. Instead of leaping in pursuit, Lawler reached beneath the ring to remove a chair he had placed

there earlier in the day. With this new, heavier, and more dangerous weapon, Lawler ruthlessly resumed his attack.

Before the referee could stop Jerry, the chair was swinging wildly and brutally through the air. It crashed down on Sheik's back and glanced off the side of his head. Though it wasn't a direct hit, it was agonizing enough to make Sheik groggy. The wrestler knew another shot would knock him senseless, if not permanently injure him. Sheik didn't have to be told a perfect blow to the temple could kill.

So Sheik fled. Running with the pathetic grace of a wounded deer, he ran to safety. Lawler, he knew, could beat him back to the dressing room. With a trapped animal's instinct for preservation, he ignored the impossible and ran right for the ladder, his closest means of escape. He climbed up with a speed borne of desperation.

Lawler had first planned to go after his woozy victim with the chair. Luckily for Sheik, the brave referee grabbed it from his hands before he could take off after his foe. However, the referee didn't have a chance to take the knife away.

So, at the bottom of the ladder stood Lawler, waving his bloody weapon and screaming for Sheik to come down. Jerry could have gone up after Sheik, but that action was too cruel. From the shot on the head, Sheik was dizzy. He was obviously having trouble staying up on the ladder. If Lawler could keep him up there, Sheik would surely fall; it could very easily become a plunge to death.

The only thing saving Sheik was the terrified pleas of his advisor, Eddie Creatchman. Creatchman demanded the special police drag Lawler from the arena. The men in blue recognized if they did nothing, they could be considered accomplices in a murder. They managed to remove Lawler before Sheik could fall to his doom.

Slowly, Sheik stepped down from his dangerous perch. Once on the ground, he collapsed in Creatchman's arms. His ordeal was over.

In his dressing room, Lawler was happily crowing over his victory, although the referee had counted both men out and it was officially a double disqualification.

"I made Sheik run for his life!" Lawler screamed joyously. "I made that guy take off with his yellow tail between his legs!"

But how Lawler accomplished this feat was nothing to brag about. □



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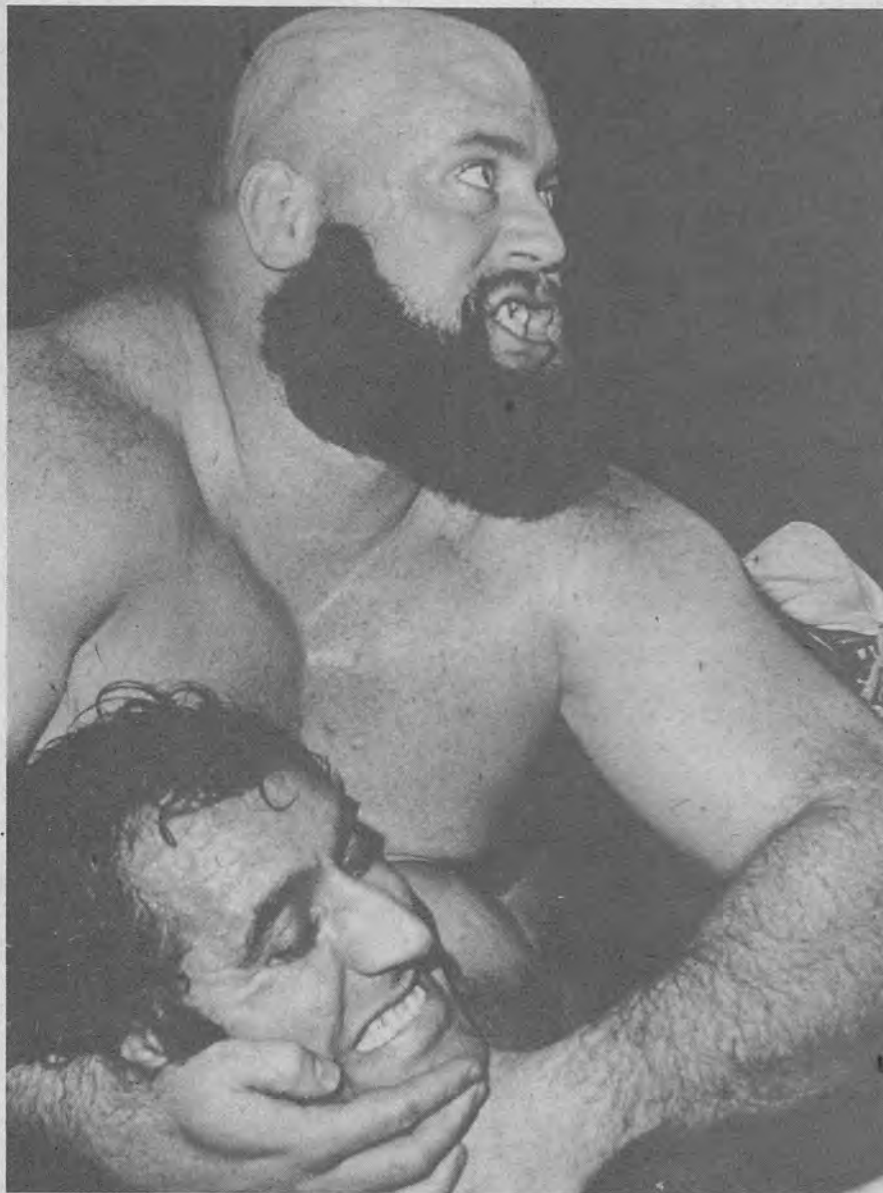
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BUGSY McGRAW

(Continued from Page 18)



Bugsy's deranged stare is toward the fans while he illegally has his fingers wrapped around Dom DeNucci's windpipe. Most men who use these tactics receive boos from the fans; Bugsy can do no wrong for his many admirers. It's an astonishing phenomenon indeed!

someone else tells him is the right way to wrestle. Bugsy is the only guy I know who manages to beat everyone at his own game!"

Over and over again, this type of answer comes up in long discussions with fans. Most are embarrassed to admit they identify with or admire a psychotic. It is only after trusting the interviewer when they tell why Bugsy is their hero.

"'Sick Power!' is my kind of power," says Harris Rogers of Scarsdale, New York. "Bugsy may not be the greatest wrestler in the

world, but he's the smartest. He's his own man; he only listens to the wild thoughts running through his head. And these days, they're the only things that count!

"When it comes right down to it, Bruno Sammartino may win every title in sight—but so what? He does everything he's supposed to do. That's not my idea of being your own man. When it comes to taking no guff from anybody, Bugsy is the undisputed champion!

"Look, the whole stupid world has gone nuts. Who knows what to

believe in anymore? Buggy doesn't try to understand or believe in anyone else's rules. So what if everyone says he's crazy? What the hell have they done that's so wonderful lately?"

In these troubled times, a troubled man has become the unlikely hero of thousands. His popularity troubles his opponents. These are men who have done everything they could to earn the fans' respect.

"How do you figure it?" said a depressed Dominic DeNucci minutes after battling to a draw against Buggy. "The fans were cheering him! He's the dirtiest wrestler around, he's nuttier than a tortoni, and he is managed by that louse, Albano. How can the fans cheer him when he does these things?"



Buggy continues his attack on Dominic even after DeNucci is thrown out of the ring and crashes hard on the press table.

"I'm not the only wrestler it bothers. All of McGraw's opponents feel the same way. We've earned the respect of fans; we've paid with our blood. Now, McGraw comes along, does everything wrong, and is cheered for it. A lot of guys I've talked to say they still feel dedicated to the sport—but the fans can take a flying leap!"

"I don't feel that way; the fans have always been good to me. But I still can't understand why they cheer for McGraw."

When DeNucci is told about the reasons fans have given for cheering Buggy, he just shakes his head in wonder. He is understandably shocked by fans finding a psychotic hero for any reason.

No one ever expected Buggy McGraw to be a fan favorite. Of course, no one expected the world to be like it is today. It's terrifying to realize Buggy is considered by many to be the man of the hour. □

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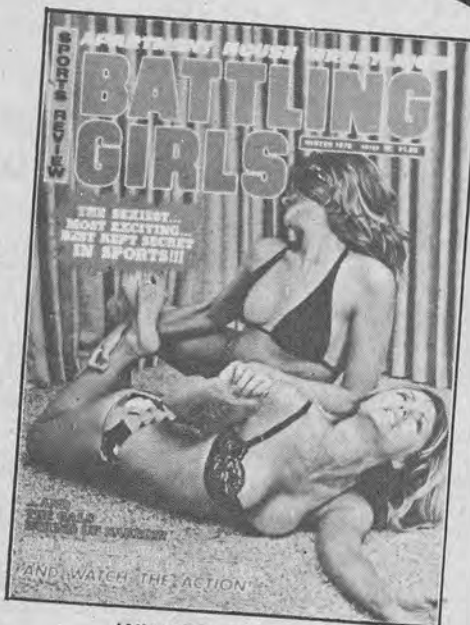
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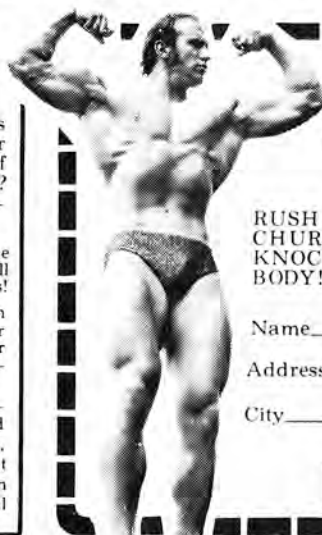
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